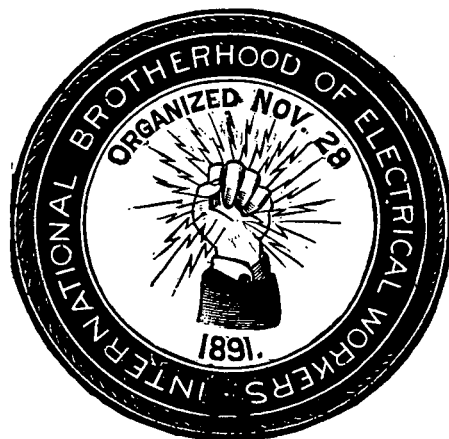


THE ELECTRICAL



WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Edited by PETER W. COLLINS, Grand Secretary

General Offices: Pierik Building

Springfield, Ill.

Entered as Second-Class Matter, June 6, 1906, at the Post Office
at Springfield, Ill., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Entered at the Post Office at Springfield, Ill., According to Act of Congress as Second-Class Matter.

Vol. VIII, No. 8

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., JUNE, 1908

Single Copies, 10 Cents
\$1 per year in advance

SCAB LABOR.

Late Supreme Court Decisions and the Way Out For Union Men.

BY RAYMOND ROBINS.

(Address delivered by Raymond Robins at a "national protest" meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor, held Easter Sunday, April 19th, 1908, at Federation Hall, 275 LaSalle St., Chicago, Illinois.)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen and Friends: To the more thoughtful men in this country the cause of organized labor and the rights of the group of toil, are more in jeopardy at this moment than at any other time within the last thirty years. The chief reason for this belief is the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the suit of *Loewe vs. Lawlor*, known as the Danbury Hatters' case.

It is my purpose here today to discuss some of the fundamental implications that lie in this decision. It is necessary for you to consider what it means for the Supreme Court of this country to find, that the printing of a list of unfair employers and products in a trade union paper is a conspiracy in restraint of trade.

We are required to go back to first principles. We must take a review, as it were, of the aims and achievements of organized labor, to determine whether we have been mistaken through the long years in demanding union conditions for the working people of this country; or whether the Supreme Court is mistaken in finding that organized action—for the protection of the rights of men, women and children who earn what they eat—is a conspiracy in restraint of trade. We have further to determine whether free men must accept the decisions of the Supreme Court as a rule of political action

and a final settlement of questions on public policy. Now mark what I say! Every law-abiding citizen will abide by the decision of the Supreme Court until it is reversed; but if the decision be contrary to a just interpretation of the law or the Constitution, or in conflict with sound public policy, then every intelligent and free man in this Republic should do what he can to see to it that such decision is reversed. (Applause.)

If it be true that organized labor is a conspiracy against the rights of man; if it be true that employers have a vested right in the purchasing power of the group of toil, so that the members of that group cannot protect their own people from dishonest goods made under anti-social conditions; then the cause of union labor will finally be defeated in this country, and we will go back to the old order of one man seeking to barter his labor power with a great corporation, and trying to protect himself from unjust conditions by stopping work as an individual. Each workman will then be in the position of the cat in the tub on the lake. The cat doesn't have to stay in the tub; it can jump into the lake and drown if it objects to the tub. (Applause.)

And because this is no child's play, but rather the facing of a fundamental issue and a fundamental crisis in the life of this Republic, I count it high honor to be privileged to discuss this issue before you this afternoon. I want to be just; I want to be deliberate; I want to say the full measure of such truth as I think I know, and then, I want to abide the consequences of such statement even

after it has been garbled in the press and lied about in one quarter or another or the privileged group of plunder in the city of Chicago. (Applause.)

The questions that now fall to be considered first are these :

Should workmen seek to improve their condition and the condition of their fellow workers? Is the welfare of labor important to the welfare of a nation.

Let us go back from the heat of this present time for an authority on these questions. Let us go back to the greatest statesman of this Republic, a name that even the group of plunder and the subsidized press have to speak of with respect. Let us go to this great soul that came out from the common places of the world, who lived the common life, who bore the common burdens of poverty and toil, and who out from the conflict of a great human issue rose, by reason of his courage and his brain, by reason of his great heart that beat true to the life of men, to the highest place, not only in the administration of this Republic, but to the highest place in the hearts of all free men of all the nations of the earth—let us go to Abraham Lincoln. (Great applause.)

Listen to his answer. I quote him as he spoke in the city of New Haven on the 6th of March, 1860: "I am glad to see that a system of labor prevails in New England under which laborers can strike when they want to. * * * I like the system which lets a man quit when he wants to, and wish it might prevail everywhere." Hear him again as he speaks in Cincinnati, February 12th, 1861: "I agree with you, Mr. Chairman, that the workmen are the basis of all governments, for the plain reason that they are more numerous." * * * And later in the same address Lincoln said: "Mr. Chairman, I hold that while man exists it is his duty to improve, not only his own condition, but to assist in ameliorating the conditions of mankind." Finally, my friends, listen to these words from Lincoln's first annual message to the Congress of the United States under date of December 3, 1861, written just as this plain, simple man was going about the greatest task ever given to any mortal in the political world: "Labor is prior to and independent of capital." (Great applause.) "Capital is only the fruit of labor and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much more consideration." (Applause.)

This is Abraham Lincoln, not an Anarchist, who tells us this great truth of the right and dignity of labor in the civilization of mankind. (Applause.)

My friends, I do not want to assume the infallibility of anybody. I do not believe in the authority of great names over

the free life of man. More truth is breaking out from human experience upon this earth as generation succeeds generation, and the wise men of today are as wise as the wise men of yesterday. But to those who demand authority we will say, "We rest our case upon Abraham Lincoln's statement of the service and rights of labor in producing true wealth and promoting the civilization of the world." (Applause.) Leaving now the authority of great names, let us examine the share of labor organizations and the group of toil in the welfare of this Republic.

Labor organizations demand high wages for the working people that feed and clothe and house the world. Is this a just demand?

We are an industrial people. The daily welfare of this nation rests upon industrial prosperity. Upon what foundation does industrial prosperity rest? Upon the purchasing power of the group of toil. What maintains this purchasing power? High wages. Every man and woman who can think knows this great truth, that the buying power of the workers is the basis of industry throughout the entire nation. That the wages of labor rather than the profits of the capitalists are the basis of trade and industry is subject to very simple and sufficient proof. Imagine, if you please, that my friend here is enjoying an income of \$25,000 a year. By grinding down wages or controlling the market so that prices can be increased to the consumer, let us suppose that his profits are increased 100 per cent for 1908, he will now have an income of \$50,000 a year. What will he do with his profits? He has all the beds he needs; a man doesn't want to sit in more than two chairs at the same time; nobody wants to wear more than two suits of clothes at once, especially if it is a little warm; so a man with an income of \$25,000 will have practically all the commodities of labor that he needs. What will he do with the additional \$25,000? He will invest it in stocks and bonds, paper evidences of debt, charges upon the industry of the country, for the next thirty or fifty or a hundred years. These securities largely representative of the "water power" of monopoly and special privilege, are tied around the neck of legitimate industry and are a common burden upon the honest laborer and the honest business man alike. They enable an idle and dissolute class to sit back and clip coupons, for which your wages are clipped to pay. (Applause.)

Now, imagine, if you please, that this extra \$25,000 in profits is changed to \$25,000 in wages. Suppose it is distributed for fifty weeks to 100 men at an increased wage of \$5.00 a week. What will these 100 workmen do with this extra \$5.00

a week, or \$250 for the year? There is not a single workingman's family in Chicago tonight that has all the useful things they need. These increased wages will go to buy better food and clothes, cleaner and better lighted homes, and more education and opportunity for the children of the workers. And by the same token, every merchant in Chicago would know that there was in crease in his trade and every tooth carpenter would have more teeth to fill and would get more money for his work, so that all business and professional men not implicated in monopoly would be the gainers, and the welfare of the whole community would be advanced. (Applause.) And because this is true, there is not a business man nor a professional man that—unless he enjoys some special privilege or monopoly—is not just as much interested in the purchasing power of the group of toil as any member of a workingman's union. And let me say here that if organized labor in every city of this country were to devote one meeting a month to explaining the great industrial and social values that result from demanding union conditions in industry, for business and professional men, as well as for themselves, then that large class of people in every community who are used even against their own best interests to defeat the demands of labor, would not be as numerous in this country in the future as they are this afternoon. (Applause.)

Labor organizations demand an eight-hour day for the working people of this country. Is this a just demand?

Let us examine the facts from two points of view. First let us consider the question as a matter of political economy and the production of wealth; and second as a matter of social economy and the production of men. For, strange as it may seem, manhood and womanhood, as well as railroads and factories, are of moment to the state.

The most careful inquiry that was ever made into the effect of hours of labor upon the production of wealth, justifies the conclusion that for a period of five years without change in the workers an eight-hour day will produce more net material wealth than a ten-hour day. The increased production flows from the increased efficiency of the labor power, and the reduction in the losses due to broken machines and wasted material. Both of these losses show an extraordinary increase after the eighth hour in production. (Applause.)

What are the social consequences of long hours upon the life of the group of toil and general welfare?

Here again the most careful inquiry ever made into the cause of intemperance proves that the greatest amount of drunkenness prevails among that group

of laborers that work the longest hours. And by the same token here you find the least regard for childhood and the home, for education and religion, for justice in the state and general advancement in the life of man. And how could it ever have been thought to be otherwise? Let any of you work 12 hours a day steadily for some months and find out what it will do to you. I am not dreaming—I have worked 12 hours a day in the mine and lived by it for months at a time. You leave your work and go to your cabin or tenement home, eat your supper wearily, too tired to care much about anything, and then you will do just one of two things; either you will pile into bed and sleep as a horse, or you will go down to the saloon, throw a couple of beers under your belt, and try to be happy under the influence of that artificial stimulant that is helping to break down your manhood every time you use it. (Applause.) Will a man who has worked 12 hours come home at night and talk to his wife about the little economies of their daily life, will he gather his children around him and ask them about their lessons and the hopes of their young lives, will he seek out his friends and discuss with them the questions of government and social progress for himself and his fellows? He will not. He hasn't enough juice left over from his day's toil. For the larger hope of the world, for the better interests of mankind his weary body and mind has no place. (Applause.)

If this room was full of preachers instead of workmen, I would like to say to them: "Gentlemen, if you will make a demand for shorter hours and better wages for the group of toil and stand by it, then they may have time and interest enough to come into your churches." (Great applause.) Then the clergymen would understand why their churches are empty of workmen, and they would know why working people have small faith in the religion of those who say on Sunday, "Now be good and you will be happy," while they help exploit these same working people the other six days in the week. (Applause.)

So it now appears that an eight-hour day is good economy for both the production of wealth and the production of men. And because this is true, in spite of the stupidity of the group of plunder and the ruling class of this country, it will yet become the maximum day in every occupation and in every trade throughout the land. (Applause.)

But what of the share of labor and the workers in the financial system of this country? Surely here mere working people are of small account. The great bankers, the proud magicians of high finance, they at least do not need the help

of the group of toil. These wise men who lend out savings of the working world and clip for themselves the difference between the 3 per cent they pay and the 6, 8 and 10 per cent they get, surely they are head and tail and the "whole thing" of our national system of finance. Well, let us see. A little while ago we had some trouble with our financial system in this nation? Our people had been working and saving and putting their good dollars into the care of these great men in the savings banks. And these wise men had been loaning out our savings on one kind of security and another—mostly water—when one fine day in last October a big trust company in New York went to smash and other big banks began to tremble. Working people went to the banks to get their good dollars and these wise gentlemen did not have the dollars. The gave the working people little paper slips, or told them to go away and come back some other day. Then what happened? Why, all over the country the newspapers told us how sound these banks were that couldn't pay our deposits, and how foolish we were for wanting our money. And one of the greatest metropolitan newspapers in New York came out with a little notice all bracketed on the front page so that everybody would see and read it, and this notice was printed in five different languages and when you translated it, it meant just this, "Mr. Hodcarrier and Mr. Ditchdigger and Mrs. Scrubwoman, for God's sake don't take your savings out of the banks or we'll all go to financial smash." (Applause.) In other words, the financial pillars of this Republic rest upon the labor power of the group of toil, upon the real dollars that represent the wealth produced by labor, and not the spurious wealth, the watered securities, the monopoly debts, that are piled up in the banks and trust companies and safety vaults, and are not worth the paper they are written on if the wheels of industry cease to turn round. (Applause.) Land and labor, the power of God in the living, working earth and the living, working men produces all the wealth and all the real security for wealth, that there is anywhere in all the world. (Applause.)

We are all familiar with the fact that the working people are the political foundation of this nation. The politicians won't let us forget it anywhere around election times, even though these same politicians forget it the day after election. (Applause.) Even the Manufacturers Association loves the working people on election day. There is not a privileged plunderer in Chicago, no matter how much he hates the union label, but who will contribute his money to either the Republican or the Democratic party with full knowledge and consent that every

poster and every publication sent out with his money, will bear the label of the allied printing trades.

Yes, the labor group is the big group on election day and the only people that have not found it out are the labor people themselves. (Applause.) Abraham Lincoln said: "Workingmen are the basis of all governments for the plain reason that they are more numerous," and when we learn this truth and get together, there won't be any more scab labor Supreme Court decisions. (Great applause.) What of the share of labor in the moral power and progress of mankind? What is the reaction of the often ignorant and always despised toilers in the moral heritage of the race? Can it be maintained that in this exalted realm the working people are of any special consequence? Let us examine the facts.

Now a man's moral influence in a community rests not upon what he knows, but upon what he does; not upon the way he talks, but upon the way he acts. What group in the community acts the best upon the moral issues of our industrial politics? Every thoughtful writer and thinker for the past twenty years has declared that the average workingman acts and votes most surely right of all the classes in our country. Now is this because workingmen, as such, are more honest than business or professional men, as such? Not at all. The reason is found in the fact that they are not getting a "rake off" from any social wrong, that they are not profiting by any of the industrial injustice of the present arrangements, in other words, they are not implicated in the steal. Think of what this means in the realm of active morality. And remember that morality is dead that is not at work on the job. A business or professional man becomes interested in public morality and social justice, he starts in to help right some manifest public wrong, and finds to his astonishment that in some obscure way he profits or may hope to profit personally by this wrong, if he will just be good and attend to his profession or business, and let politics alone. I have known many men of this sort to start out finely and then weaken over night. Now these persons were just as honest, just as well intentioned as the average workingman, but they were subject to pressure, and they were pulled off.

But the group of toil is not subject to this sort of pressure. No man who gets up early in the morning, eats his simple breakfast, goes down to the shop and works until noon, eats his cold lunch, works until night and then, returning, climbs up the stairs to his tenement home, is getting any gain from any social or industrial wrong. Everything he gets out of life he earns. He eats his bread in the sweat of his own brow. Now this man

may be stupid or prejudiced, he may be ignorant or foolish, but if you can really get him to understand that this man or that measure is right and helpful, and the other man or measure is wrong and hurtful, he will go to the polls and vote for the man or the measure he believes to be right. He is free from obscure pressures and hidden selfishness and unseen pulls. (Applause.)

Among all classes there are individuals who stand the strain, men of the hero and martyr type and they are the eternal glory of the race—but they are too scarce to carry an election. The average man in this world is just the ordinary garden variety of the genus homo. The moral tests of life must strike him evenly, they must come to him on fair terms—or he will fall down. We all bear a family likeness to that Irishman who said he could stand anything in the world “but timplation.” (Laughter and applause.)

We have now finished our review of the part of labor in the drama and heritage of civilization. We have discovered that the foundations of our common life rest upon the common man. Industrial and political, financial and moral, all the wonderful structure of this modern social order finds a common foundation in the group of toil. Our inquiry has vindicated the truth of Abraham Lincoln's declaration that “Labor is superior to capital and deserves much more consideration.” (Applause.)

Let us now inquire what is the condition of labor? Does labor enjoy that superior consideration in the halls of legislation and the decisions of courts that Lincoln said it deserved? Let us examine the facts.

There are two kinds of infants in this Republic. There are infant industries and infant laborers. Most of the infant industries are rather husky and well grown, while many of the infant laborers are not so husky or well grown. The Federal Congress has found it both constitutional and wise to protect infant industries and to tax all the people for their benefit. Yet this same Congress finds it unconstitutional and unwise to protect the infant laborers of Pennsylvania from the exploitation of the interstate group of plunder that has its headquarters in New York. (Applause.)

There are two kinds of mothers in this Republic. There are mothers of dollars and mothers of laborers. The Congress has found it constitutional and wise to protect mothers of dollars in the form of timber tracts and mineral lands and to tax the people to irrigate and reclaim vast deserts in the West. Yet the same Congress finds it unconstitutional and unwise to protect

mothers of laborers from exploitation in sweat shop, and laundry and factory and mine. (Applause.)

There are two kinds of fathers in this Republic. There are fathers of dollars and fathers of laborers. The federal Congress has found it constitutional and wise to protect the fathers of dollars in the form of national banks, in times of panic, by issuing bonds for millions of dollars. Yet the same Congress finds it unconstitutional and unwise to protect the fathers of laborers in times of panic, by providing work or any other aid, even though these same fathers die of starvation and their children perish from cold. (Applause.)

There are two kinds of interest in this country. There is the interest on Capital and the interest on Labor. The legislatures and the courts have found it constitutional and wise to protect the interest on Capital in the railroads and other public service corporations of this country in the enjoyment of an irrefragable right, to suck 6 per cent interest on watered stock from the industry of this country. Yet these same legislatures and courts find it unconstitutional and unwise to protect the interest on Labor from overwork and underpay, from being crippled and killed without remedy, or forced to starve through the deadly blacklist, without right of relief. (Applause.)

There are two kinds of protection in this country. There is the protection of the rights of property and the protection of the rights of men. Presidents, governors and mayors have found it constitutional and wise to use federal troops, state militia and deputy sheriffs, city police and Pinkerton detectives to protect the rights of property. Yet these same presidents, governors and mayors have found it unconstitutional and unwise to use any force whatever to protect human being from insanitary tenements diseases, sweat shop infractions, Monongah mine explosions, or the countless other infringements of the right of Labor. (Applause.)

The other day a workingman, No. 63, died in the warehouse of the Pioneer Paper Stock Company. Neither the company nor the coroner have found out who No. 63 was. You couldn't lose a dollar that way in this Christian city of ours. (Laughter and applause.)

My friends, the point in all these illustrations is just this. Property is better protected in this country than is labor. Now I have no stone to fling at the protection of wealth. I believe in law and order. I believe in the protection of property rights, but I believe also in the protection of human rights. A just social order will protect a man's hand or his labor power, as well as a dollar. When a man loses his life in industry a wise

public policy would secure to his wife and children the value of his labor power, charging this cost against the whole consuming public, just as an injured or broken machine is charged. If dollars can be protected why not human beings? (Applause.)

Now amid all these legal and judicial discriminations that reverse Lincoln's rule, and seek to make capital superior to labor, what power amid the industrial, political and social powers of this country has advanced the rights of labor? The trades unions. What have they done? They have educated and organized two million working men and women into a great industrial brotherhood working together for just wages, fair hours and healthful working conditions. Union men have done more to pass child labor laws, laws limiting the hours of work for women, protected machinery and anti-sweat shop laws, and other factory and mine legislation than all other forces in the community. Organized labor has gone forward ever defending and ever advancing the rights of men, women and children in the industrial struggle. (Applause.)

How has labor done this great work? By education, by organization, by strikes, by urging the purchase of union goods, and by the sympathy of the community through the growing social consciousness of all mankind. But it is charged that sometimes union men are brutal, that they violate the laws and are led by unprincipled men. Yes, union men have about as much human nature as other people. Yet union men haven't any monopoly of these characteristics. The packers and mine owners and railway magnates are brutal and lawless and unprincipled enough to deserve some of your condemnation. And it should never be forgotten that these captains of industry are tempted only by boundless greed and lust for power, while the workers fight for their homes and their daily bread.

Lincoln said that he was glad that labor could strike if it wanted to. So am I. I don't like strikes. They are always wasteful, often hurtful, but many times necessary. And men, when you do strike—stick, stick, stick to the bitter end! (Applause.) For a strike is never wholly bad. It educates the workers to a sense of solidarity and brotherhood, and it educates men who have only a financial conscience to a point where they are willing to consider a union organization not only for the purpose of saving a few dollars.

In the matter of corrupt leadership it is well to remember that the trades unions are not as much under the control of vicious leaders as are the political parties in this country, and when the critics of organized labor drive out the

political crooks from their organizations it will be time for them to make a noise about labor crooks. (Applause.)

Such, my friends, was the condition of labor in this country when the Supreme Court of the United States handed down its decision in the case of *Loewe vs. Lawlor* on February 3, 1908.

This decision, under a statute that has been in force for nearly twenty years, sweeps away a right that has been exercised by organized labor from the beginning of its history; and denies our right to protect our own people from the use of goods made under conditions anti-social and destructive of the welfare of the working people. It assumes that to publish an "unfair list" is a conspiracy in restraint of trade. Thus is a statute passed to protect the people from trust control of commodities, wrested into a powerful weapon of the trust manufacturers to destroy trade unions and make scab labor national in this country. (Applause.)

Now I want to be very careful, and first inquire whether I have the right to criticize a decision of the Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court of the United States is a sacred institution, if its judgment is infallible, if I become an enemy of my country by criticising this court—then I don't intend to do it. And here again I go back to the same great authority, to that tall, quiet man, a glimpse of whose very spirit you can catch from that wonderful statute down there at the entrance of Lincoln Park. I go back to him, trusting that he has been dead long enough not to be called an anarchist now, and that I cannot be justly censured for following his example, to whom this generation builds statutes, and inscribes a name high over all the great names of the Republic.

Just a little over fifty years ago this same Supreme Court rendered another decision that made a crisis in this nation. This decision was rendered in the case of *Dred Scott*. Abraham Lincoln opened a debate upon this decision that did not cease until the black man was free, and the poorest negro boy in all the South could look up into his master's face and say, "I am free," could look up into the blue heavens and say "the curse of slavery has been taken from my back forever." Mr. Lincoln began this discussion in this State of Illinois in the city of Springfield on the 26th day of June, 1857. I now quote from Mr. Lincoln's speeches in the course of that great debate:

"I have expressed heretofore, and I now repeat, my opposition to the *Dred Scott* decision; but I should be allowed to state the nature of that opposition and I ask your indulgence while I do so. What is fairly implied by the term Judge Douglas has used 'resistance to the de-

cision?" I do not resist it. If I wanted to take Dred Scott from his master, I would be interfering with property, and that terrible difficulty that Judge Douglas speaks of, if interfering with property would arise. But I am doing no such thing as that, but all I am doing is refusing to obey it as a political rule. * * * We let this property abide by the decision but we will try to reverse that decision. Somebody has to reverse that decision, since it is made, and we mean to reverse it, and we mean to do it peaceably." (Applause.) And organized labor in this country means to reverse the decision in the Danbury Hatters' case, and we mean to do it peaceably. (Long and continued applause.)

Again Lincoln said:

"We do not propose to be bound by it as a political rule in that way, because we think it lays the foundation not merely of enlarging and spreading out what we consider an evil, but it lays the foundation for spreading that evil into the states themselves."

This is just our case, it is on all fours with the power of scab labor under the Danbury Hatters' decision. (Applause.)

Further along Lincoln said:

"Jefferson said that judges are as honest as other men and not more so." And he said, substantially, that "whenever a free people should give up in absolute submission to any department of government, retaining for themselves no appeal from it, their liberties were gone. * * * I believe the decision was improperly made, and I go for reversing it. * * * I spoke of the Dred Scott decision in my Springfield speech, and I was then endeavoring to prove that the Dred Scott decision was a portion of a system or scheme to make slavery national in this country. * * * In my judgment there is no avoiding that result, save that the American people shall see that our constitutions are better construed than our Constitution was construed in that decision." (Great applause.)

And I say to organized labor in Chicago and throughout this country, that the decision of the Supreme Court in the Hatters' case is part of a system or scheme to make trades unions illegal in the United States. And I say further, that there is no remedy against the approach of this scab labor tyranny, that is waiting to exploit you and your wives and your children; except such intelligent use of the ballot as will secure a different construction of our Constitution the next time the rights of labor are before that high tribunal. (Great applause.)

We must be patient, we must be deliberate, but we must get together and we must act. If we permit this scab labor decision to go unchallenged until after

the next election, then the next decision which logically follows will be upon us, and organized labor will wake up to find that the Supreme Court has decided that trades unions are a conspiracy in restraint of trade, and they will outlawed in every interstate industry. All manufacturers, merchants or carriers engaged in interstate commerce can evoke the aid of this decision in event of a strike, by setting up the contention that the trade union is a conspiracy to restrain interstate trade, get an injunction against the strikers, and subject the union to destructive fines and penalties. Waiting upon our difference and dalliance, waiting upon our foolish divisions upon one unimportant question and another, until the next election shall have safely passed without effective protest, is another decision following the logic of the last, and completing the scheme to make trades unions illegal throughout the states and the nation.

Men, do you remember what Mr. Dooley said regarding the decisions of the Supreme Court? Well, it was something like this: "There may be some question as to whether the Constitution follows the flag, but there's div'l a bit of doubt but that the Supreme Court follows the election returns." (Laughter and applause.) If you remember this, men, when you go to the polls next November, then you won't have a scab labor Supreme Court at Washington after the next election. (Great applause.)

Now, men and women, let us get at the point of view of the opposing forces in this great conflict. It is useless to disguise the fundamental conflict of ideas between the group of plunder and the group of toil. A clear grasp of the difference in idea of these two groups is of first importance at this time.

Let me read you a clear statement of the idea toward labor of the group of plunder. It was written by a representative and eminently respectable man, a gentleman in fact, who I am informed is some \$30,000,000 respectable. This statement is from the last annual report of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, by its president, Mr. W. H. Truesdale. It was adopted by a very respectable and influential board of directors. Among the members of this board are William and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., both very religious gentlemen, I am informed: Messrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt and William H. Moore, both recognized as railroad kings and leaders of society in New York; and Messrs. George F. Baker and James Stillman, both bankers of great repute, the latter president of the National City Bank of New York; generally believed to be the national headquarters of the group of plunder in this country.

It reads as follows:

"The service of the railway officials and employes of the United States is closely analagous in every particular, excepting in matter of compensation, to that of the country's army and navy. They must respond to the maximum requirements of the country's business for transportation service as willingly and quickly as the soldier or sailor in the time of war. In doing this they must, if necessary, work days, nights, Sundays and holidays to the extent of their strength and ability."

Now I want to read to you a similarly clear and representative statement of the idea toward labor, of the group of toil. This statement was made in the city of Philadelphia by John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, and was made to his board of directors, the coal miners of this country:

It reads as follows:

"I was taught to believe when a boy that God loved all His people alike. I was taught to believe that he conferred no more power or favors upon one than upon another; and notwithstanding the declarations of the controllers of trusts, I am not prepared to abandon the teachings of my boyhood days. The coal miners of Pennsylvania are engaged in a life and death struggle, trying to secure sufficient wages to take their little boys and girls of tender age from the mines and the mills, and send them to school, where as the children of American citizens they properly belong. I look forward to the time when the men who build the lightning express, and the men who build the beautiful Pullman palace cars, will not have to walk from station to station looking for work. I look forward to the time when those whose labor builds the beautiful churches whose spires point heavenward, will not have to walk past them too ragged to enter. I look forward to the time when the workers of our country will take possession of their own land." (Great prolonged applause.)

Here, my friends, we have discovered the fundamental conflict in this great crisis. And now for the last time in this discussion we go back to the tall backwoodsman from Illinois, to that greatest statesman that the democratic purpose in civilization has yet brought forth. Of the great issue that made the social and political crisis of his generation he spoke as follows:

"Now these two ideas, the property idea that slavery is right, and the idea that it is wrong, come into collision and to actually produce that irrepressible conflict, which Mr. Seward has been so roundly abused for mentioning. These two ideas conflict and must conflict."

Let us paraphrase Lincoln's statement and apply it to our great issue: Now these two ideas, the property idea of labor, that overwork and underpay, child labor, women disinherited from maternity and men crippled and killed in industry, is necessary and right; and the citizenship idea of labor, that it is unnecessary wasteful and wrong, come into collision and do actually produce that irrepressible conflict which Mr. Gompers has been so roundly abused for mentioning. These two ideas conflict and must conflict.

Now I say to you men and women most solemnly, the conflict between the property idea of labor and the citizenship idea of labor presents the supreme issue of this generation. (Great applause.)

You will find if you analyze all divisions of sentiment in every community upon the labor question, that the one sentiment is grounded upon the property idea of labor as being of first importance, and the other sentiment is build upon the citizenship idea of labor as of first importance, on the idea that a man is of more consequence than a dollar. (Applause.)

Now is there any person within the range of my voice who is so foolish as to think they can escape this conflict? You cannot escape! Listen. For some eight years I have been studying a labor group in this country that has been little known and much despised—the unorganized casual labor group. I have been finding out how powerful this group is becoming as a strike breaking force to resist the demands of union labor. I have found it is increasing in numbers from year to year. Of more importance still, I have found out why! There are many secondary causes, but the primary cause is this—the free opportunity of the great western frontier has passed forever from the world. Some years back the feet of the pioneers met the waves of the Pacific. They turned about face for a little while and then went north, and I know something about the men of "97," for I was with them. We pushed on, hunting free opportunity, until we reached Behring trait. I stood on a cliff overlooking the ice pack toward the West. The great cold of that atmosphere does the same magic that the great heat does in the desert. The cliffs of the Siberian coast were lifted up higher than the icebergs, and pictured on the western horizon we saw the old East—Asia—the ancient human hive, the starting place of the western pilgrimage of mankind. We turned back from that great scene and fought our way through the valleys and over the mountains of Alaska, and we did not know then the significance of that wonderful mirage. But I know now. I

know that those pictured cliffs marked the final closing of a century long outlet for surplus labor toward the West. It marked the closing of the last gate of free opportunity for enthusiastic young men with the old spirit of the quest in their hearts. Today, this afternoon, as you sit in this hall; the eager-hearted boy in the country town, on the farms, in the smaller cities throughout the nation and the old world; what is he thinking about? He is not thinking of the frontier any longer, for it has ceased to exist. What is he thinking about? He is thinking of Chicago, New York, St. Louis and San Francisco. They are coming, they are on their way as you sit here, to enter into the industrial struggle of Chicago; young, unskilled, eager for work, knowing nothing of the strain and struggle and suffering of labor to get fair hours and wages; unorganized and undisciplined, willing to go anywhere and do anything; still believing that if they are good and work overtime for underpay they will get promotion sometime. Under such a decision as this they will ultimately be used to destroy organized labor. Can you escape this conflict? At this very hour the strain increases; at this very moment the pressure of that group upon the union scale of hours and wages is felt in every trade in Chicago. It will not grow less. It will grow more intense. The tide has turned back upon us, from the new world and the old world they are marching toward the great cities of America—marching toward Chicago. Can you escape this conflict? You cannot escape! You have got to meet the issue. You have got to solve the problem of universal organization for labor. You have got to do this to save your own freedom and the freedom of your wives and your children. You must undertake to advance the citizenship idea of labor, above the property idea of labor, in the laws of the land and the decisions of our courts, as Lincoln said was right and just. The men who believe in the property idea of labor will oppose and denounce us. They will lie about us in their subsidized papers, they will punish us in all possible ways; but we will beat them in the end, we will beat them—because we are right, and there are more of us! (Great applause.)

I am one of those who, knowing the power of the worst in our human life, believes firmly in the absolute triumph of the best. I believe that the love of freedom, justice and righteousness of the whole people, is safe against the machinations of the group of plunder, now and forever. The great true things rise

up and take possession of the world. This is the old story of civilization, gaining, gaining, day by day and generation by generation and century by century, some further recognition for the rights of man. But these gains come only through the co-operation and service and sacrifice of living men. The historic group of toil has always fed and clothed and housed the world. Disinherited from generation to generation, it has gone forward, struggling for understanding and fellowship, and a share in the gains of the social order.

We are now engaged in the third great struggle in the life of this nation, the struggle for industrial freedom. We have more resources and more power of action this afternoon than ever before held by the group of toil in all the history of the world. We are able if we are but willing, to realize that old dream of the race, not the dream of great men nor of great classes; but the dream of a great people, from the man who digs the ditch, up to the last exalted expression of intellect or genius; strong, free men and women entering into the labor and festival of life on fair terms, and bringing forth a heritage of useful service with untainted honor. (Applause.)

Men and women, this is Easter afternoon. It is a great day in the religious life of mankind. It is held sacred by many millions to commemorate the final victory of a poor carpenter's son who gave his life for the group of toil. He was the greatest radical, and the most far-reaching and successful agitator the world has ever known. He said that he came that we might have more life, and that we might have it more abundantly. He said that we should know the truth and that the truth would make us free. He said that we were all brethren. He suffered and died for the poor and the disinherited. He was persecuted and crucified by the group of plunder who were the masters of Jerusalem in his generation. Yet today, millions have bowed when the group of plunder read this decision in the Hatters' case they said in their hearts, "This is the death of organized labor," but I say to you, that meeting as we are today in every city in the land, the earnest minded and lion-hearted workers of this country know, that this decision instead of being the death of organized labor, marks the resurrection of organized labor. (Long and continued applause.)

(At the conclusion of Mr. Robin's speech a rising vote of thanks was tendered to the speaker.)

FOR A CLEAN JOURNAL.

IN the interest of harmony and progress the editor has refused this month to publish parts of communications from different sources because they contained personal assaults upon the characters of other members of the union. Now we wish to say to these reporters whose statements we refused to publish that for the sake of making the Journal democratic, this kind of matter has been published many times in the past, and in every case it developed later that irreparable injury to the organization resulted. Ill will and hatred was engendered which extended even to the editor, who had no part in the controversy except to publish the statements of the men concerned in it. When charges of this nature are paraded in the columns of the Journal, it calls for a counter statement from the other party and then another and another, and as a result an endless controversy is carried on which is of no particular interest except to the ones who are assailing each other.

Now we are aware that the parties whose letters are censored will take offense and will declare that the matter rejected, being the truth, should have been published, but that makes no difference so far as the stand taken by the editor is concerned. If they will honestly think the matter over they will agree that in the columns of the Journal is no place to fight out these differences. The readers of the Journal are not sitting as a jury to try these cases. The Constitution of the C. I. U. provides machinery for the trial and punishment of members who commit offenses against union principles, and as a further safeguard to character it provides that a member convicted of an offense may appeal to the General Executive Board. Until charges have been brought in the local union and a trial had and the accused convicted, according to the constitution, and conviction sustained by the General Executive Board, the Journal should not be open to an assault upon the character of a member, and even then the wisdom of parading the shortcomings of one another in the Journal is very doubtful. Every man has shortcomings which do not look well in print. Our own shortcomings should prompt us to look with charity upon the weaknesses of others.

The Journal has a large army of readers throughout the country and to brand one as a scab or traitor in its columns means something serious, especially if he has not had a trial and been convicted of a crime against the union. It means that men's characters, whether they be good or bad, are not safe if this precedent is established. Some of our reporters seem

to think that this is the purpose for which the Journal is published:—to air our grievances against one another. This is a very wrong impression. The tendency of late with a few reporters to rush into print with scandal, acrimony and innuendo is to be deplored. It bodes no good to the movement. Let us rise above this sort of thing and be men among men—civilized human beings, if you please.

The Journal will be free to all for the discussion of subjects that effect us in a decent and orderly manner, but do not prostitute this privilege by vicious assaults upon the characters of fellow members. Once these things are printed, they stand for all time. An injury inflicted through the columns of the Journal can never be recalled. It is a serious matter. We would like to see the Journal made a clean publication for the discussion of labor matters and not a medium for the destruction of men's characters.—Coopers' International Journal.

Washington, D. C., May 12, 1908.

Mr. Peter W. Collins, Secretary International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America, Pierick Building, Springfield, Illinois.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—The failure of many of the local unions to be represented in the respective State Federations of Labor, received the consideration of the Norfolk Convention, and as a result thereof, the Secretary of the A. F. of L. was instructed to communicate with the officers of the national and international organizations, requesting them to issue a circular setting forth the advantages of the State Federations, and advising their local unions to affiliate therewith.

Recent developments as regards the legal status of labor organizations make it imperative for our unions to be on the alert as to any legislation that may be enacted, both for or against labor. This is the special function of the State Branches, and to increase the chances for success in having remedial legislation adopted by the State Legislatures, they must have the support of every local union within their jurisdiction. I, therefore, trust that you will write your locals a strong letter, in compliance with the recommendation of the Norfolk Convention, urging them to be represented in their State Federations and give them the fullest support and co-operation possible.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK MORRISON.

Secretary American Federation of Labor.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

PROBLEMS.

In the making of *men*, problems are as necessary as opportunity. Problems *make men* and occasionally break them.

Men who are put to the test and meet it are better men after they have met it. Though the trials are severe at times, the victory is satisfying.

He who has had no problems to meet is hardly a *man*.

Men are measured by what they have done. Some men of extraordinary capabilities yearn for *problems*. They yearn to engage in this *man* making combat of real strength testing. But most of us are satisfied if we succeed in coming out on top with the ordinary every-day trials of life, without going out of our way to seek to conquer. And yet the man who is not afraid to meet problems is doing his work well.

He may receive a setback occasionally, but invariably the setback makes him strive harder if he is made of the right kind of stuff.

Many of us hoist the white flag too frequently. We lack confidence and determination.

We surrender too easily when real courage and persistency *would* win.

Therefore, don't decry the problems or underestimate their value. They are the real stepping stones to success and aid in the making of *real men*.

BALANCE OF POWER.

Trade Unionists in the coming elections can be the balance of power. They not only owe it to themselves, but to the

Labor Movement to be the *balance of power*, and to cast their votes to the end that *results* can be accomplished.

The recent decisions of the Supreme Court are a sufficient emphasis of the fact that labor is given little consideration at the hands of the powers that control the government; and if the future solidarity of the movement is to be made possible, then the *powers* must be taught to respect the rights of Labor. It is a serious problem and one deserving of the consideration of every trade unionist.

If his right to organize is to be denied by the Supreme Court—as a restraint of trade—then it is time that he should unite at the ballot box to protect his rights. The *soft word* and the *glad hand* at election time should not be accepted by labor as a remedy for the injustice done.

This has been too often the case. We are in a serious period and we must recognize our responsibilities. Let us see to it therefore that Labor does its duty at the ballot box, not in a half hearted way, but in the spirit of real trade unionism.

**PROGRESSIVE-
NESS.**

The Labor Movement of today stands for progressiveness of a real and permanent character. The ranks are filled with men who unselfishly strive for the uplift of all the people, for the common good. It is a great human movement and, like all movements, it has its faults, in men and occasionally measures. In principle it is as sound as the rock of Gibraltar. Its work for humankind is inestimable. Results have been achieved by the unselfish devotion of its members. This devotion has manifested itself in many ways, but in a greater degree by *loyalty* than any other.

Men have given their lives to the cause and have died in its service. Others are leading without hope of personal reward, but with the satisfaction of participation in a *great work*. This is the spirit which has made labor what it is today; this is the spirit that will guide its future. Some men are imbued with this spirit of loyalty to a greater degree than others. Some give their best effort without hope of reward or even appreciation. Others there are who accept the benefits, but give no return. Many would sacrifice it to gain personal prestige or political preferment. Others would ruin—if they could—when they cannot rule.

This has been the experience of all great movements—yes, and of little ones, too; but the good, sound, common sense of the vast majority can be relied upon; that great conscience which is the guide of Labor in its future work and which gives it stability. Leaders may come and go, big men in heart and mind may pass from the stage, but their places will be filled by other *big men*. Mistakes have been made and mistakes will be made, but the movement of Labor will go on and on with clean, able, far-seeing leaders doing their work with the *men of Labor* for the progress of the cause.

**EXERCISE GOOD
JUDGMENT.**

Let us be frank. Isn't it a fact that we too often neglect to give careful consideration and fair analysis to the things that seem commonplace. We seem to forget that in the composition of the whole it is the commonplace thing that counts; that goes to make the stability of the whole. Some men, yes, legions of men, dream of the *possibilities*; of the *great things* that will be the target for their arrows. Splendid in the abstract this future dreaming. Yes, and solacing at times. It is good to feel that we mortals can point our arrows high and occasionally hit the mark. Yes, it is *good*; and this arrow pointing is commendable. But wouldn't it be just a little ~~more~~ practical, a little more of value to ourselves, if we knew whether or not our marksmanship was equal to the task, whether or not we knew we would *hit* or *miss*? Isn't it the same through life? Don't we too often neglect to measure ourselves; to weigh in and find out our real capabilities?

Confidence is an excellent thing and confidence in one's own self helps to success, but it must be real confidence founded on real merit with sufficient foresight to make it of practical value.

Every man should give his best effort in the determination of the questions which are met in life and his best effort is careful consideration, impartial analysis and good judgment. It may appear easiest to do the wrong thing always, but it makes endless toil and wears out patience, when the ordinary exercise of common sense would bring the right results.

READERS OF HISTORY.

All men should be readers of history, for in its reading much profit results.

Reading history broadens the mind and eliminates conceit. It brings men to a realization of their place in life, to a realization of work that can be done by honest, consistent effort.

The greatest aid to progress is history, for history is indeed progress.

An hour or two could not be put to better use than in the reading of the achievements of the past or the possibilities of the future.

A man who reads history is usually broadminded and well informed.

It isn't necessary to possess a library to get interested in the subject. All that is needed is the desire to read and the practical application of the desire.

The subject is worthy of your interest. Give it some attention.

DON'T BE A PESSIMIST.

The frailties of human nature cannot be an excuse for pessimism, and the attempt to justify pessimism on such grounds is in itself a symptom of that most ravaging of mental diseases.

Pessimism is a disease and the pessimist is a most prolific breeder. Men are far from perfect and their failings are many and varied, but a justification for pessimism cannot be made on that premise.

Some of us have aspirations and ideals, and in the contemplations of their success we are imbued with the light of cheerfulness and of optimism.

We are not perfect even in our ideals, and our experience in life either chastens or causes us to lose them entirely. But we were the gainers in their possession, even though we had found them impractical. They helped to brighten the mind and gave impetus to the gospel of good cheer. And what greater work is there in life than that of spreading the gospel of good cheer; the gospel of appreciation of the hopes and aspirations and the ideals of men?

No greater or nobler work can be done; no results of greater moment can be accomplished than of bringing into the lives of men the light of hope and cheerfulness.

The roadway of life is not easy to travel and the pilgrim must expect to meet with obstacles and setbacks on his journey, whether that journey be long or short.

He realizes that in the making of men these obstacles must be met and overcome. He must not let one setback stop him from continuing onward if he hopes to succeed.

By setting the beacons of hope as his mile posts he illumines the way, and makes progress possible. And where possibilities exist, actualities are probable.

The traveler who carries the *load* of pessimism is severely handicapped. His chances of reaching the goal are mighty slim, for by pessimism he impedes not only his own progress, but that of his fellow travelers. Loss of *hope* need not be pessimism or the result of pessimism, but the weak traveler has few chances of regaining hope and courage from the advice of his friend, *the pessimist*.

DUTY.

Doing our duty conscientiously without fear or favor is our greatest obligation to ourselves. No matter what our position in life may be we lack the essential unless we do our duty.

Popularity is pleasing and gratifying to most men. It is a natural and human trait, but when it is sought at the expense of duty it makes its possessor a dummy, not a man. The first requisite of a man is manhood, and manhood should never be sacrificed for popularity.

Your self-respect is worth more to you than popularity; your character is worth more to you than popularity; and your future is worth more to you than popularity. Look to it and protect it.

MANHOOD.

The qualifications of a *real man* is *manhood*, and plenty of it. Too often in estimating men this essential requisite is not considered, or if considered, is not given the attention it deserves.

The standard by which men must be gauged is *character*, and character is *manhood*.

The superficial attainments which occasionally give men a standing among men are not the attributes by which men should be weighed.

If a man is successful from a dollar and cent point of view, he is often hailed as a successful man. In a degree he may be successful; but the manner and method by which he made his success, rather than the possession of *that which gets him the credit* of being successful, is the standard by which he must be weighed.

If through honest effort and square dealing he made money, then he is entitled to some credit, but if on the other hand his success was a result of *system just within the law*, then that success is mighty poor stuff and not the kind that makes *men*.

Money making is not success. Men may make money through trade, industry or talent, and not be successful men.

Some men have never possessed more than enough to eke out a bare existence and yet have been successful to a degree beyond the expectations of

monied men. Their success was the kind of which men boast; the success of *manhood*.

Wealth may serve a purpose and men have made wealth serve a purpose, but the great successes were made without it. In fact, wealth is an impediment to real success. It isn't a matter of *sour grapes*. It's a simple proposition. Wealth has its uses, but wealth alone can never be the inspiration for success. Many and many a promising career has been wrecked by its acquisition; not in respect to its misuse after possession as much as in its deadening influence on talent and ambition.

All men should have a mission in life, a mission of love and labor, a mission of justice—the mission of *manhood*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Malice is not an agent of success.

Self seekers are usually self praisers.

Never judge men on the opinions of other.

Good ideas are the stepping stones of progress.

Crooks are both born and made. Look out for them.

The results of some men are limited to their imaginations.

Great accomplishments are the result of attention to details.

Don't place your responsibilities upon the shoulders of others.

Faithful attention to duty is self-satisfying, even when applause is absent.

Plotting is the work of knaves and has no place in the lives of honest men.

Getting results is better business than commenting on their possible failure.

If a man is always fair with himself, the chances are that he will be fair with others.

Results come from effort; and effort is application. The more of it, the greater the results.

A knave is usually "hoist by his own petard."

Character counts in both the long and short run.

Don't slander your fellow to gain favor with others.

Men who belittle *little things* impede their own progress.

Men who carry water on both shoulders invariably *trip up*.

Encouragement is not flattery and the *encourager* has a misison in life.

Seek truth but see that you get the *real article*, not the imitation.

Details should not be neglected, for in the making of men they count.

Some men *seem to be* at a disadvantage by attending to their own affairs.

"Be sure you're right, then go ahead," is as serviceable a motto today as it ever was.

Be a man at all times, ever ready and willing to assist in building up, not tearing down.

Hasty action is not judicious action and it is destructive; judicious action is always constructive.

The expression of good, clean, wholesome thought is of more value than a trainload of shady epigrams.

The fool and the knave often travel together. For the first we have sympathy; for the latter contempt.

It is better to be right, even though you lose favor, than to sacrifice your self-respect to gain popularity.

Sermonizing with others on the failings of manhood in general is of less value than sermonizing with one's self on one's own failings.

There are always two sides to every question, the right and wrong. It is your duty to be on the right side and you can be if you will always investigate carefully and judge impartially.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S NOTES.

THE F. S. cannot be held responsible for the negligence of the member who fails to pay dues regularly; but the F. S. can to a great extent make the negligent member see the error of his way.

* * *

SOME members even object to other members protecting their benefits.

* * *

THERE can be no good excuse for a member jeopardizing his standing.

* * *

HE owes it to himself and his L. U. to pay his dues each month.

* * *

WHEN you are in doubt as to the standing of a member, send to the G. O. and get the information.

* * *

SUGGESTIONS for this column are welcome. If you have a good one, send it along.

SOME members give a great deal of effort toward the success and progress of their Local. Others give none. Which class are you in?

* * *

DUPLICATE per capita sheets are permanent records. See that they are properly protected.

* * *

WHEN reporting initiations give full name, card number, age, and all necessary information.

* * *

THE efficiency of the Local depends on the members doing their duty.

* * *

SEE that mailing list is kept up to date and corrected each month.

* * *

LAXITY in members does not make a live Local.

A VERY HANDY TOOL.



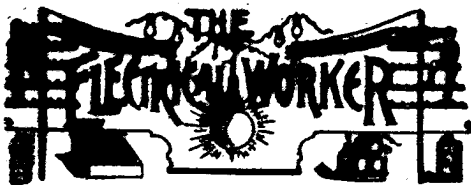
One of the handiest little tools for electrician's use which I have seen in some time is being placed on the market by a brother in our local. This tool is Osborne's Extension Brick Drill Head, and it certainly saves a lot of time and trouble on a job, besides being so light to carry that its weight is not noticed in tool bag.

These "Drill Heads" are made with teeth at one end, the other end being threaded to screw on a piece of gas pipe or conduit. Being made of steel and hardened the teeth will stand the work and the shape of the drill insures a smooth round hole quickly cut.

The illustration shows a "Drill Head" screwed on a piece of 1-2 inch conduit

and also a set of four "Drill Heads" fitting 1-8, 1-4, 3-8 and 1-2 inch pipe and the small wooden box in which they are packed. This complete set weighs only five ounces; much less than one star drill twelve inches long.

It is possible to make the handles for these heads as long as necessary for drilling through thick walls. One brother drilled down into a wall from above and concealed BX cable in the finished brick wall. This is something new in the wiring line, how many of us have often wished we could fish behind a brick wall? With this "Drill Head" it is possible in many cases. H. G. Osborne, 74 Cortlandt street, N. Y., is the brother making these drills. EDW. J. JANTZEN.



**Official Journal of the
INTERNATIONAL
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Published Monthly.**

PETER W. COLLINS, Editor.
Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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As The Electrical Worker reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. JUNE, 1908

Advertising rates may be secured by writing to the Editor.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The first of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.



The H. W. Rokker Co., Springfield.

LOST.

Card No. 147042, H. Kapneck. Finder return to B. A. O'Leary, 83 You St. N. W., Washington, D. C.

Bro. P. Cunningham, card No. 212825, has lost his due book. Finder mail to J. Bunch, 617 13th St., Douglas, Arizona. (L. U. 434.)

INFORMATION.

Will Jim Dunning please write to Geo. Dunning, 530 Belvidere ave., Detroit, Mich.? Important.

Information as to the whereabouts of Bill Wells of L. U. 14 will be appreciated by L. Larson of Local Union No. 9.

If any brother knows the whereabouts of S. C. Hamilton, formerly a member of Local No. 155 of Oklahoma City, Okla., will do a great favor by letting No. 9 of Chicago know. Louis Larson, R. S.

If Bros. Robert Baker, card No. 114528; Carl Davis, card No. 114521, or W. E. Hess, card No. 114520, should see this, or any one knowing their whereabouts, will please write me as I would like to get into communication with them.

Yours fraternally,

EDW. STIERN,

F. S. L. U. No. 428.

Box 31, Bakersfield, Cal.

If the following brothers will communicate with me they will confer a favor upon themselves: R. Jackman, Thos. McCarty, H. S. Lenehan, E. J. Turner, L. F. Simpson.

(Signed) G. FRANK GARREY,

B. A. and F. S. Local 125.

Room 204 Drew Bldg., Portland, Ore.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Bro. Earl Richards, or if he should see this, please write to C. A. DeGarmo, box 144, Norton, Va.

NOTICE.

All members of the I. B. E. W. who are indebted to E. B. Hill for board and lodging will save themselves exposure by either calling on or communicating with Mrs. E. B. Hill, 1114 Low Pablo avenue, Oakland, Cal., or Hugh Murrin, Business Agent Local No. 283. By order of Executive Board, Local No. 283.

Under Art. 14, Sec. 8, of the Constitution, we are supposed to notify the Grand Office. Local 43 has been locked out in five shops for the past six weeks and the balance of the association shops this morning. Now, Bro. Collins, we are going to take advantage of the above named article and section, and beg to remain

Fraternally,

F. N. STILES,
ANTHONY YOA,
T. A. AMES,
L. S. FERRIS,
J. KERWIN,
Executive Board.

Local No. 136, Birmingham, Ala., is involved in a strike with the contractors here for the enforcement of a new scale. They propose to take advantage of the 90-day clause in the constitution.

Fraternally,

G. E. HOSKINSON, P. D. C.

Members are warned to keep clear of Seattle, as we are taking advantage of Article XIV, Secs. 8 and 9, of the constitution. No traveling cards accepted.

Fraternally,

H. HILBERT,
Box No. 1427.

Lockout on in all shops. Notify membership through May WORKER.

W. H. LARUE, Sec.

Rochester, N. Y.

FAITHFUL SERVICE.

THE best definition of education has been given as knowing something about everything, and everything about something.

In the complex subject of organized labor, the student must be educated in the needs of the people. He must become familiar with all sides of the industrial problem to be able to meet the requirements of its service. To sincerely study the concentration of capital, and the dwarfing of the individual by privation, to see million-dollar homes and extravagant receptions, and just around the corner, hovels and hunger, and bare destitution,—to realize these inevitable differences is to feel one's heart aching well nigh unto breaking for pity of it all! To feel and understand in small measure the narrow limits of the average toiler in his hopes for education and his aspirations for better conditions of life, not alone for himself, but for dependent loved ones—to learn such lessons is to develop a tenderer sympathy, a broader charity and keener appreciation of others' motives. Through such studies we gain a clearer knowledge of human nature, its selfishness and frailties, as well as its

divine attributes and its marvelous capacity for patient endurance.

No better work or nobler destiny has ever been wrought than faithful service in the cause of organized labor. It is pleasant and refreshing to come in contact with a personality beaming wide awake and intensely alive to the interests of a mission. When that mission is for the developments of the toiler's best and highest possibilities, and the promotion of the ideals of brotherhood among mankind, is it any wonder that enthusiasm for the work burns into one's very soul; or that a philanthropic eagerness and zeal should become like a chronic disease or a mania?

To know in the depths of our own inner consciousness that a cause is just, and to espouse the cause we believe in is to become the living impersonation of that cause. Meeting such an idealist we meet the soul of earnest representation, and go forth from such a presence to take up our own tasks with renewed interests, inspired with new courage for individual accomplishments. A man in love with his work gets the richest blessing life has to bestow. The homely facts of organized labor's determined struggle for better conditions stand out clear and strong, illustrating the gospel of labor. For those who have mastered such facts, there is a great work destined. The very lives of such students of the economic puzzle and industrial conflict are bound up in their work, until their daily routine of duties has become sacred to them, as a part of themselves.

To clasp the friendly hand, and come within the light of the enthusiasm radiating from the great, sympathetic heart that thrills and throbs for the good of labor's hosts, is to realize that one has enjoyed the rare privilege of looking into, and communing face to face with the soul of labor's mighty cause. More and more the great minds of this nation are becoming interested in the industrial welfare of the laborers, and the humane elements of the subject must appeal to the heart as well as to the head.

"Responsibilities gravitate to the person who can shoulder them; and power flows to the man who knows how." How happy then are we when the test of responsibility comes to us, if the results of our work prove us qualified and equal to the emergency! We would not pray for "tasks equal to our powers, but for powers equal to our tasks." A rich reward of satisfaction comes to those who labor to deserve it, but congeniality with one's work is a boon from the fates. In any walk of life and in any field of labor, there is much sweetness to be gathered; and a great wealth of satisfaction is found in faithful service.

MARGARET SCOTT HALL.

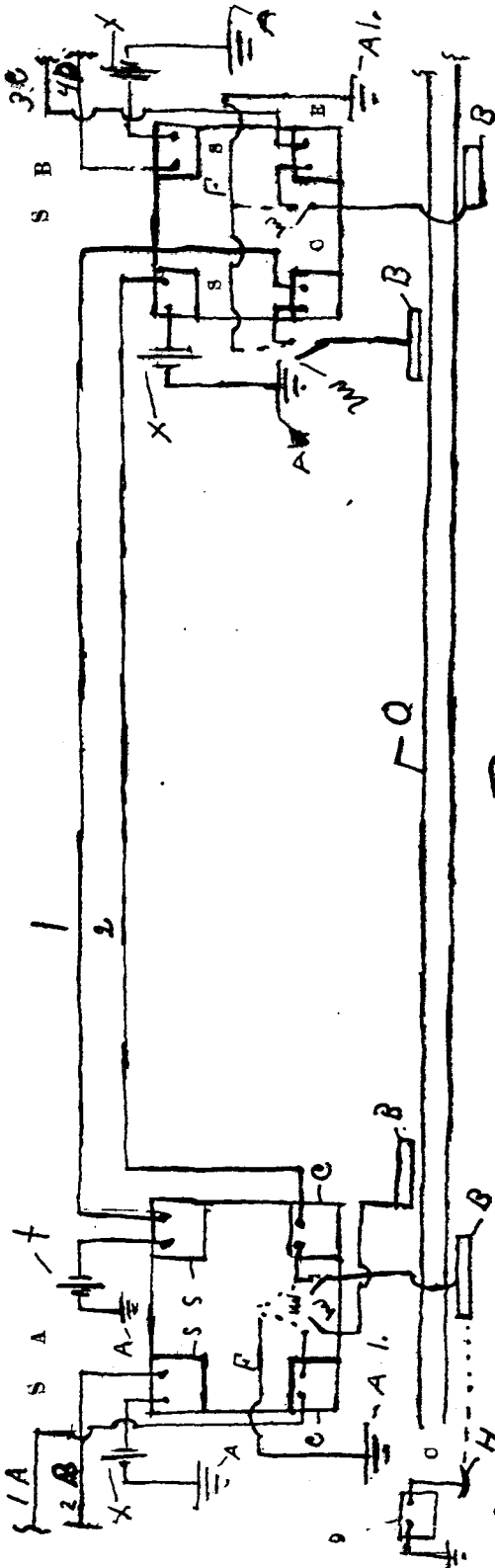
IRELAND'S SIGNAL SYSTEM.

Patented by a Member of the I. B. E. W.

A. N. IRELAND, No. 55.

DESCRIPTION.

The accompanying cut is designed to show a block between two stations—S A and S B—equipped with the Ireland Signal, together with the engine-cab equipment—8 9 C—wires 1 and 2 and track O between stations. C at Fig. 9 is a watchman's punch clock placed in the engine cab. Fig. 8 shows wire used for ground on one side of engine. H is steel brush or spring on heel of pilot or engine. B is contact block set along side of rails, electrically insulated from ground and rails at Station A. The line going to Fig. 3 shows switch through which current flows to punch-clock C, over line wire 2, to semaphore at station B, marked S, through battery marked X, to ground A1. An engine striking contact block B at station A would register, on the punch clock C in cab of engine, and also, simultaneously, on punch-clock C in station A, the exact instant of contact, and the semaphore at station B would be dropped at the same instant; the engineer thus knows that he has a clear block to station B, and he is protected in front to that station; at the instant of the dropping of the semaphore at station B, the current through line wire 2 is cut off, so that a train following would be unable to get a register on the punch-clock of its engine, thus protecting the rear end of the first named train; should an engineer, approaching station B, in the opposite direction, from a point beyond station B, ignore the fallen semaphore at station B, and enter the block between stations A and B—the exact time of his contact with the block being registered in his cab and also in station B—his fault would be certainly determined by a comparison of the punch-clocks, both in engines and stations; there would thus be a double check on each engineer. Should a contact block, from snow, sleet, slush, hail, or from any other cause, become out of order, the operator at the station would be immediately warned and notified, as the clock would be tripped, its bell continually rung, the tape punched and the semaphore connected with clock dropped; the operator could then cut the contact



block off the line by means of the switch, marked 3, and use wire marked F to drop the semaphore at the next station—should a train want the block—give the conductor a clearance card, which would show the exact time that he dropped the semaphore and that the clock was punched, giving him the right to the block. Upon reaching the contact block an engineer positively knows from the punch-clock in his cab that his train is registered in station A and that the semaphore at station B is dropped.

As all battery sets at the semaphore, there is a continual flow of current on the wire, so that, should a line become grounded in any way, the semaphores would immediately drop to danger. After a semaphore is dropped to the danger position the current is cut off completely from the line.

Should a second train follow a section into a block it would be impossible for the engineer of that train to get a register in his cab, because when the engineer of the first train got his register and dropped the semaphore, the current was cut off from the line, thus creating a dead wire from station A to station B. This dead wire could be used as a telephone wire by taking taps from the block wires and bringing them down the pole

into a box onto a jack; so that, by placing a telephone in the station, bridged on to the block wire, open through a condenser, should anything ever happen to train between blocks, a train man could go to the nearest block, plug in a phone—carried on the train—and always reach the station behind.

Should a contact become grounded, or in trouble, or out of order, its semaphore at the next station would immediately go to danger, the clock at the station be punched and the bell rung continually, telling the operator that his contact block was not working; the operator could then cut the block off from the line with a switch, call the man at the next station and restore his board; then, should a train approach, wanting the block, the operator, conductor or brakeman could ground the line in the station, using wire F, placed there for that purpose, drop the semaphore ahead of him and get a clearance card showing what time he got his register in the station. The clearance card must always tally with the clock; if not, the guilty violator of the signal is readily and accurately spotted.

Trains moving from station B to station A would be operated similarly, over line wire 1, as above described over line wire 2.

DISTRICT COUNCILS.

April 1, 1908.

March 1 I arrived in Aurora, attended to some correspondence, made out my report and prepared to go to Ft. Wayne, but just as I was ready to start for there I received a letter from G. V. P. Noonan requesting me to meet him in this city and that we would take up and settle the Hammond affair some way.

Bro. Noonan arrived in Aurora on the 5th. We went to Joliet, saw Bros. Mulenix and Hughes on some business which Bro. Noonan was looking up. From there we went to Hammond, attended a meeting of No. 571 and Bro. Noonan settled up with them, which finally disposes of this case. From there we went to Chicago to take up some matters with No. 134 and No. 9 in regard to Hammond. I returned to Aurora and on request of Bro. Noonan I remained there to arrange for a meeting of No. 149 on the 10th, on which night Bros. Noonan and Hayes attended. On the 11th I went to DeKalb, Ill., to look up some new work I heard was about to start, namely, an Independent Telephone Co. and a new light job which, when started, can be made a union job but which I found had not started as yet. I had not been very well for the past week and returned home

where I was detained for a week with a bad case of la grippe. On the 20th I went to Chicago and saw Bro. Hayes in regard to Chicago men transferring to the Hammond Locals when working in that locality. I then went to Indianapolis, met Bro. Ryan and had a talk with him as regards to conditions in his jurisdiction. Went to LaFayette to see if I could find out anything about the banner of No. 222 that has been in dispute so long and found that the man that has same was working out of the city, so returned to Indianapolis and attended a meeting of No. 10. Again saw Bro. Ryan, who stated that it would be a waste of time to try and do anything in that city at present, so I went to Logansport and saw Bro. Clugston. He requested me to go to Peru and see if No. 347 was still in existence and if so report to him the conditions, which I did. He also asked to have Ft. Wayne looked after. I arrived in that city on the 27th, attended a meeting of No. 305, six members out of eight in good standing being present. I requested them to apply for permission to open their charter during April and also to get it changed to a mixed Local and that during that time I would give them a week or ten days, all of which they agreed to.

On the 29th I returned home and found a telegram awaiting me from Pana, Ill. I immediately started for there. On my arrival I found a bad state of affairs. The Federal Labor Union having notified the Light Co. that they would call a strike April 1st unless a settlement was effected, which has not, and the strike is to take place at 12 o'clock to-night, March 31st, which will take in the members of No. 605.

F. R. McDONALD,
Organizer.

The third annual convention of D. C. No. 5, first district, was held in Buffalo on May 27 and 28 at Schwartz's hall, corner Washington and Goodell streets. The following officers were elected for the ensuing term:

President and Organizer—Louis L. Donnelly, Syracuse, N. Y.

Secretary and Treasurer—Y. K. Packard, Elmira, N. Y.

First Vice President—W. H. LaRine, Rochester, N. Y.

Second Vice President—Thos. H. Mohan, Auburn, N. Y.

Third Vice President—W. A. Hicks, Utica, N. Y.

The three vice presidents being the new officers.

This body meets in May each year and the meeting this year will be long remembered by all the delegates who had the good fortune to attend. For the committee selected by Locals Nos. 41 and 45 were past masters in the art of entertaining, they having prepared a most sumptuous banquet for Thursday night, and on Friday morning met the delegates in a body and took them to Niagara Falls. There we visited the power plants, both on the American and Canadian sides, finishing the day by taking the trip over that beautiful gorge route. We returned to Buffalo and before we adjourned to meet in Albany next year, we took a rising vote that Buffalo was the best ever.

Committee for No. 41—W. E. Mary, Wm. Belcher, G. C. King.

Committee for No. 45—T. J. McDougall, J. McCadden, Jos. Wiegner.

Fraternally submitted,

LOUIS L. DONNELLY,

President.

J. K. PACKARD,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 28, 1908.

Resolution No. 3 of the third annual convention of District Council No. 3, First District, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

WHEREAS, The present condition of the I. B. E. W. in the jurisdiction of this District Council is, through no fault of the Grand or District Council officers, in a bad condition from standpoints of organization and finance; and

WHEREAS, We believe that conditions similar to those that obtain here may be brought about through a similar combination of circumstances in other sections of the country, to the detriment of the I. B. E. W.; and

WHEREAS, It might be possible to remedy our conditions by some other method; we believe our conditions and the best interests of the entire I. B. E. W. can be best conserved by the full and free discussion afforded by a convention; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this convention go on record as favoring the calling of a special convention of the entire I. B. E. W. at the earliest practicable date; and be it further

Resolved, That we request the Grand Secretary to publish a copy of this resolution in the official organ of the I. B. E. W.

Fraternally submitted,

(Signed) JOHN J. PURCELL,
L. U. No. 26.

WM. F. KELLY,
L. U. No. 26.

Favorably reported.

CHAS. HOFFMAN,
No. 366, Chairman,
EUGENE DRISCOLL,
No. 81,

H. W. POTTER,
No. 98,

Committee on Resolutions.

Adopted unanimously by this convention April 29, 1908.

Attest:

ROBERT L. DICKSON,
Secretary Convention.

At the G. E. B. meeting, which is to be held July 15, I hope to see not only the members of the Board, but each G. V. P. and every D. C. President present at that meeting.

I hope this communication will be published in the June issue.

I stand first for a special convention. If we are not to have a special convention, I hope to see at that board meeting the ideas of our Brotherhood as nearly represented as possible.

Perhaps there may be those who will inquire or assign a motive to these two letters which I hope to have published in our June official journal.

I shall try to make my position so fair and clear that each member can see my motive and understand my object.

I have absolute faith in the majority of our Brotherhood. I believe in the wisdom of members.

I am convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that a mere special E. B. meeting will not bring about that unity of action which is so necessary at this time for the future growth and prosperity of our I. B. E. W.

Fraternally yours,
JAS. FITZGERALD,
G. E. B., 5th Dist.

AMENDMENTS TO SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT.

(Amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.)

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the Supreme Court of the United States decided that boycotting the hats manufactured by Loewe & Company, of Danbury, Conn., was in restraint of trade and came under the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, the American Federation of Labor has perfected its appeal to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia against the decision rendered by Judge Gould, granting a permanent injunction against the members of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, restraining them from boycotting the Buck's Stove & Range Company and from publishing the company's name in the "We don't patronize" list. The appeal is made in the belief that when the Supreme Court of the United States is reached that court will not uphold Judge Gould's sweeping decision, and the labor organizations will be permitted freedom of action in their refusal to purchase the products of non-union and antagonistic concerns, and freedom of press in publishing the fact to its members that the Buck Stove & Range Company has and is now discriminating against members of the Federation.

In addition to the appeal just perfected, the most determined effort is being put forth by the officers of the Federation to secure an amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, exempting labor organizations from the operation of this particular law, which was never intended to apply to labor unions.

Representative Wilson, former Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers, introduced the following amendment in the House:

"That nothing in said act is intended nor shall any provision thereof hereafter be enforced so as to apply to organizations or associations not for profit and without capital stock, nor to the members of such organizations or associations.

"That nothing in said act is intended nor shall any provision thereof hereafter be enforced so as to apply to any arrangements, agreements or combinations among persons engaged in agriculture or horticulture made with a view of enhancing the price of their own agricultural or horticultural product."

The following amendment introduced in the Senate by Senator Dick of Ohio, is a verbatim copy of the amendment that was adopted by the Senate in the Committee of the Whole while it was discussing the original Sherman Bill:

"That this act shall not be construed to apply to any arrangements, agreements, or combinations between the laborers, made with a view of lessening the

number of hours of labor or the increasing of their wages; nor to any arrangements, agreements, or combinations among persons engaged in horticulture or agriculture, made with a view of enhancing the price of their own agricultural or horticultural products."

President Roosevelt, in his special message to the House under date of April 28th, urged the adoption of an amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law along the lines of the Hepburn Bill, a bill that has elements in it which the officers of the Federation believe would be inimical to the best interests of the members of unions and which only contains a provision that a labor union should have the right to enter into agreements and the right to peacefully strike. To come under the provisions of this act, if adopted, the unions are compelled first to register, then to file their agreements with the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. These provisions are still further modified by a clause which permits representatives of either party to the agreements to set up a claim that the agreements entered into were unreasonable, and in restraint of trade. The Secretary of Commerce and Labor is authorized to carefully consider such claims and to decide whether or not agreements as to hours of labor and wages were unreasonable. If he believes the agreements are unreasonable he is empowered to declare them null and void. Such a law, besides being unwieldy and impossible of operation, is dangerous to the best interests of the members of the Federation. It is the entering wedge for Federal control of the labor unions, and the members of organized labor should oppose all efforts along those lines with all the power they have at their command. The following is what President Roosevelt has to say in his message regarding the exemption of labor unions:

"A strong effort has been made to have labor organizations completely exempted from any of the operations of this law, whether or not their acts are in restraint of trade. Such exception would in all probability make the bill unconstitutional, and the legislature has no more right to pass a bill without regard to whether it is constitutional than the courts have lightly to declare unconstitutional a law which the legislature has solemnly enacted. The responsibility is as great on the one side as on the other, and an abuse of power by the legislature in one direction is equally an abuse of power by the courts in the other direction. It is not possible wholly to except labor organizations from the workings of this law, and they who insist

upon totally excepting them are merely providing that their status shall be kept wholly unchanged, and that they shall continue to be exposed to the action which they now dread."

During the period the members of the Civic Federation were endeavoring to prepare an amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law that would meet with the approval of interests affected, this particular clause was opposed by the representatives of the Federation in an effort made to have the American Federation of Labor amendment, contained in the Wilson Bill, inserted in the Civic Federation Bill before it was introduced in Congress, but our overtures were not successful, and the Civic Federation Bill was introduced without our request being favorably considered. Hence, the Federation introduced an amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, known as the Wilson Bill, and requested the officers and members of the unions of the United States to urge their Senators and Congressmen to adopt the Wilson Bill at this session of Congress.

Action by this Congress can only be secured on the measures that labor desires through the earnest, faithful and intelligent work of the officers and members of the unions, demonstrating, in no uncertain manner, to their Senators and Congressmen that they are intensely in earnest in their endeavor to have this legislation enacted. If they receive a reply from the Senators and Representatives, saying that they will give the bills careful consideration, such a reply should not be considered a sufficient response, they should require a definite answer, either affirmative or negative.

Not one of the measures named is unreasonable, nor can any Senator or Representative be found who will in so many words say they are unreasonable. But while agreeing with labor representatives that the Sherman Anti-Trust Law should not be applied to labor unions, many express the fear, fancied or otherwise, that if the amendment is adopted containing the provisions desired by labor unions, the Supreme Court will decide that it is unconstitutional. The measure of success the labor unions will have in securing the adoption of legislation by this Congress will depend partly, if not entirely, upon the continued and persistent efforts of members of unions to secure the co-operation of Senators and Congressmen, to assist in forcing the committees to report the bills to the House and Senate.

ANTI-INJUNCTION BILL.

The Anti-Injunction Bill introduced by Representative Pearre, of Maryland, in the House, and a similar bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, are still in the committees of the House and Senate on Judiciary. Hear-

ings have been held, but no definite action has been taken upon the bills by either the House or Senate Committees. President Roosevelt, in his message to Congress, read on April 28, urged in the most emphatic terms the adoption of an Anti-Injunction Bill slightly modifying the powers of the courts in the issuance of injunctions, but he steadily persists in his opposition to the position taken by the Federation that the injunction should not be used against officers or members of labor organizations for any act for which there was a remedy at law. The following is part of what the President has to say in regard to the abuse of the injunction by the Courts:

"They are blind who fail to realize the extreme bitterness caused among large bodies of worthy citizens by the use that has been repeatedly made of the power of injunction in labor disputes * * * it is unquestionably true that in a number of cases this power has been used to the grave injury of the rights of laboring men. I ask that it be limited in such way as that I have already pointed out in my previous messages, for the very reason that I do not wish to see an embittered effort made to destroy it. It is unwise stubbornly to refuse to provide against a repetition of the abuses which have caused the present unrest."

President Roosevelt appears to be wedded to the idea of popularizing the use of the writ of injunction in labor disputes. He urges the adoption of a bill legalizing the issuance of injunctions, which cannot fail to carry with it all its abuses, under the guise of a bill which, when read for the first time, gives the impression to the reader that it contains provisions for relief from the intolerable persecution of the wage workers through the writ of injunctions. The wage workers must not surrender their position upon this vital question. If a bill along the lines suggested by the President was adopted by this Congress it would not, in the slightest degree, furnish even a temporary relief, let alone substantial relief.

THE EIGHT HOUR BILL.

The Eight-Hour Bill is still in the Committee on Labor of the House. Extensive hearings have been held upon the bill. A document is now in print containing almost one thousand pages on that subject. Every endeavor is being made to have these sub-committees report to the full committee. On Thursday, April 30, the House Committee on Labor met in regular session to take up the report of Sub-Committee No. 1, which had had under consideration the Gardner Eight-Hour Bill. For the first time during this session of Congress every member of the committee was present. Several motions were made to have the bill reported, but were defeated

by a strict party vote. In other words, the seven (7) Republican members voted against reporting the bill. The six (6) Democratic members voted in favor of reporting the bill. It was finally decided by the committee, also by a strict party vote, that the bill should be referred to a committee of three lawyers for the purpose of considering and reporting upon the constitutionality of the measure. It will be remembered in the Fifty-eighth Congress that when the opponents of the Eight-Hour Bill feared that it might be reported that they resorted to a scheme to refer the bill to the Department of Commerce and Labor together with a number of questions. We contended at that time that the object of this reference was for the purpose of defeating the bill and that no intelligent answer could be given to the questions submitted. Latterly our contention was borne out. It is evident that the action of the House Committee on Labor in referring this measure to the above mentioned committee of lawyers, is solely for the purpose of pre-

venting the measure from receiving consideration and being passed during this session of Congress.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

On April 22, a new Employers' Liability Law was approved. The measure of relief contained in the new law is so slight that it inspired the President to say in his message that "an Employers' Liability Law had been enacted, which it is true comes short of what ought to have been done, but which does represent a real advance. The law states that "the fact that the employee had been guilty of contributory negligence shall not bar a recovery, but the damages shall be diminished in proportion to the amount of negligence attributable to such employee." No cognizance is taken of the fact that the long hours and the conditions under which the employee may be compelled to work would of itself be the real cause of the contributory negligence that caused the death of the employee.

FRANK MORRISON,

Secretary American Federation of Labor.

"IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH."

State of Oklahoma: Executive Proclamation.

Government is the source from which must spring protection to life, liberty and the acquisition and enjoyment of property.

Government must be made and executed by man.

Government that does not protect honest capital and enterprise and honest toil alike, fails of its proper purpose.

Our form of government, with its distinct legislative, executive and judicial branches, should owe the tenure of office direct to the people.

Official position should never be found on the bargain counter, where selfish interest, greedy for riches at the expense of the comfort of the toiling masses, or the morals and happiness of humanity, can buy power with the gold unjustly wrung from honest hands and needy homes.

Government is neither spontaneous nor automatic. It will not create nor operate itself.

The honest people or the special interest rule.

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

Shall the creatures of God or the creatures of the Legislature rule the country?

The past and the present warn us,—the General Government must be brought nearer the people.

Bring the United States Senate nearer the people, that just laws may be given us.

Such as to define the duties and render wholesome the administration of the executive and judiciary.

PARTY PLATFORMS AND POLITICAL SPEECH.

All pledges of future action are stale with age and the path of the past is strewn with wrecks of the people's fondest hopes.

Loud acclaim and fierce denunciation still leave the people with empty hands.

THE PEOPLE MUST ACT!

When? Now!

AMEND THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

HOW?

(a) Elect United States Senators by direct vote.

(b) Legalize an income tax.

(c) Make constitutional an employer's liability law.

(d) Cease to interrupt the states in regulation of carrying charges within the state and the prohibition of merging of competing common carriers.

(e) Leave to every state the right of its own people to enforce morality and protection to honest labor, without federal aid being given the enemy of both.

The preamble and resolutions below tell the story in detail.

The party pledge of legislation along any of these lines is an uncertain subterfuge.

Write them all in the *Constitution* and you then have certainty, but not otherwise.

Senator _____ of Oklahoma, in the Senate, and Representative _____ in the House, introduced these five proposed amendments on _____, 1908. Congress will soon adjourn.

The people are all powerful in action, but graft, greed and monopoly rule, when the people are silent.

By virtue of the power vested in me, I, C. N. Haskell, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, and in the interest of Government rendering equal and exact justice to both the rich and the poor,—

Do proclaim

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH, 1908,

a Legal Holiday, throughout our state.

That with the suspension of all legal business, our people may assemble and confer together, I urge that all advocates of good government,—

The Farmers, in their lodge rooms.

The Commercial Clubs in their halls.

The Laborers in their unions.

All Societies for the promotion of Morals and Intelligence.

All you who believe that the Laborer is worthy of his hire; that the home is sacred and domestic happiness should be promoted,—

May so assemble, and adopt resolutions demanding your Congressmen and Senators' support of these five amendments to the Constitution, and before you rest, mail your resolution to Washington.

Go after reforms in a practical manner,—all promise and no results discredit

Your duty done, let us pray that beyond your sincerity.

our own small state (weak, alone in this fight, for good government) that our Sister States throughout the Union may add their power.

Let us hope that from ocean to ocean the voice of such people assembled in every community, in every state, may add its command.

DO IT NOW! ACTION DEFERRED IS OPPORTUNITY LOST.

Done at the City of Guthrie, this 29th day of April, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight, and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Thirty-second.

C. N. HASKELL,

Governor.

Attest:

BILL CROSS,

Secretary of State.

To the Sixtieth Congress of the United States:

WHEREAS, In the Constitution of the United States it was contemplated that lapse of time and changing conditions would necessitate amendments of and additions to the original document, and therefore the making of amendments and additions thereto, were provided for.

Time has demonstrated that government by the people, of the people and for the people cannot be obtained by the present method of electing the Upper House of the Legislative Branch of the Federal Government, therefore an overwhelming majority of the people of the entire United States have in various conclusive ways given evidence or their desire that the Constitution should be amended, to the end that United States Senators may be elected by direct vote of the people of the respective states, to the end that our government in practice, as well as in theory, may justify the motto:

"LET THE PEOPLE RULE."

WHEREAS, Government devised for the protection of life, liberty and the right of property, necessarily incurs the burden of taxation, direct and indirect, and

WHEREAS, Indirect taxation is far too often made an excuse for special privileges to a favored class and a burden upon the toiling masses of the United States, and

WHEREAS, Great estates and accumulations of property necessitate a greater share of supervision and expense to government, therefore it is fair and just that an income tax be authorized by the Constitution of the United States, affording a source from which a portion of the expense of government may be obtained and to this end the Constitution of the United States should be so amended as to make the assessment and collection of an income tax constitutional.

WHEREAS, It should be the policy of our government to protect the toiling masses to the fullest degree of justice, in case of disability or death while in the service of interstate carriers and free from responsibility on account of the negligence of his fellow servant or co-employee. It is therefore essential that the laws of Congress upon this subject should not be hampered or their validity endangered by the narrow provisions of the Constitution as at present. Distinct power should be given Congress to legislate as in its wisdom may fully protect the employee.

WHEREAS, The conditions and necessities of the different states render it indispensable that each state have unrestricted the right to regulate the charges of common carriers and the conduct of transportation business and the right to prohibit the consolidation or combination or merger of competing carriers to the end that reasonable competition shall not be destroyed, and

WHEREAS, Time has demonstrated that Federal control of this vast subject is inadequate to the needs of the states, and it being within the power and province of the state to regulate its internal affairs, this subject should have the emphasis

of a direct provision of the Federal Constitution—not that the states have ever surrendered this right, but that judicial legislation may not farther encroach upon the just rights and powers of the state.

WHEREAS, It has always been the policy of free government to permit the people of the states, by their own voice (the majority controlling) to formulate and execute the laws for their local regulation, and where a state, by its people, have elected to prohibit the importation or use of any products effecting the morals and health of the community or the protection of its honest labor, by the exclusion of convict-made goods, the Federal Government should never aid or connive at the violation of such as has been declared to be the expressed will of the people of such state, to the end that doubt on this subject may be cleared away and a definite limit put upon legislation by our Federal Judiciary, an amendment of the Constitution is essential.

AMEND THE CONSTITUTION.

There are two methods of securing the submission of amendments to the Constitution of the United States:

(a) The Congress of the United States may formulate and submit amendments on its own motion to the several states for their ratification; but as to this method, the people of our country have waited long, weary years in vain, but with a last appeal to that method, the five articles proposed herewith are submitted for the voluntary action of our Congress.

(b) Wise, indeed, were those who framed the Constitution of our country, in the provision of another method for its amendment. In Article V it is provided that the several states, the source of all federal power, may by resolution of the Legislative body, two-thirds of the states joining therein, and addressing such request to the Congress make it mandatory upon the Congress of the United States to convene a convention of the states of the Union for the purpose of formulating any and all such amendments to the Federal Constitution as said convention, when assembled, may deem wise and proper and the Congress shall also provide that all amendments proposed by such convention shall be submitted to the several states for ratification. It is to be hoped that Congress will not, by their failure to act, make necessary the delay and expense incident to such convention by refusing to submit the attached five articles and such additional articles as the people may demand by a reasonable representation of the people.

The action of twenty-seven states of the Union, in requesting a convention of the states, must impress the Congress that patience has almost ceased to be a virtue and that Congress has not listened

with even diligence and justice to the source of all power,—THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY.

Can there be any better evidence of the demand for a Constitutional Convention of the states than that expressed in the resolutions filed herewith, adopted by the twenty-seven of our grand and glorious states following:

Pennsylvania, Indiana, Texas, California, Nevada, Missouri, Nebraska, Arkansas, Wyoming, North Carolina, Illinois, Colorado, Louisiana, Kansas, Montana, Wisconsin, Oregon, Michigan, Tennessee, Idaho, South Dakota, Washington, Utah, Kentucky, Minnesota, Iowa and Oklahoma.

Of the nineteen remaining states, more than two-thirds of them stand ready to join with their sister states in this demand, awaiting, only, the convening of their legislative bodies.

Shall Congress defer longer the submission of these needed amendments to the Constitution, when by the states above named substantially two-thirds of the population of the United States have united in a call for such convention?

Shall the people have the opportunity to pass upon these questions, without further hindrance or delay, or must a campaign be waged to remind Congress that it is the servant of a free and independent people?

The State of Oklahoma has created its commission and directed the presentation to Congress of the matters and things herewith, and humbly prays that the justice of these demands may appeal to the Honorable Congress of the United States.

Respectfully,

C. N. HASKELL,

Governor of the State of Oklahoma.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several states as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all or any of which articles, when ratified by three-fourths of the State Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the said Constitution, viz:

Article 16. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the electors thereof for six years, and each Senator shall have one vote; and the electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of members of the House of Representatives. They shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes, so that one-third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, the Governor may make temporary appointments until the next regular election in

such state. 'No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an elector of the state for which he shall be chosen. The Vice-President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided. The Senate shall choose their own officers, and also a president pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice-President, or when he shall exercise the office of the President of the United States.

Article 17. The Congress shall have power to provide for the collection of a uniform tax upon the gains, profits and income received by every citizen or person of the United States, including every corporation, association or company doing business for profit in the United States, subject to such exemptions as it may deem proper.

Article 18. The Congress shall have the power to define and regulate the liability of common carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce to their servants or employees for injuries resulting from the negligence of fellow servants or co-employees.

Article 19. No state shall be denied the right to regulate the charges of com-

mon carriers for the carriage of freight or passengers wholly within the State, or to regulate or prohibit the consolidation or combination of competing carriers.

Article 20. No state shall be denied the right to regulate or prohibit the shipment into the state of any article or articles of commerce injurious to public health or morals, or the product in whole or in part of convict labor.

SENATORIAL DIRECT ELECTION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

Hon. C. N. Haskell, Governor, Ex-Officio, Guthrie.

Hon. Wm. H. Murray, Speaker House of Representatives, Tishomingo.

Hon. Clarence B. Douglas, Muskogee.

Hon. Thos. H. Doyle, ex-member of Sixth Legislative Assembly of Oklahoma Territory, Perry.

Hon. John Threadgill, ex-member of Seventh and Eighth Legislative Assemblies of Oklahoma Territory, Oklahoma City.

Hon. Geo. H. Evans, Chickasha.

Hon. T. B. Ferguson, ex-Governor of Oklahoma Territory, Watonga.

Hon. Jesse J. Dunn, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Guthrie.

Hon. D. L. Sleeper, ex-Speaker of Ohio House of Representatives, Tulsa.

LABOR'S RIGHTS.

To Organized Labor and Friends in the United States:

Dear Sirs and Brothers: You have all been apprized of the great labor conference held in this city, in which executive officers and representatives of nearly all the international unions and farmers' organizations of America assembled and presented the protest to Congress and the address to the wage-workers and farmers of America. The conference, the protest and the address are the result of the decisions of the courts of our country on the one hand, and the failure of Congress to deal effectively with the subject matters in which the interests of the toilers of our country are so deeply affected.

Throughout the country, mass meetings were held April 19 and 20, demonstrating how greatly the workers of the United States are aroused to the situation. Resolutions clear and emphatic have been adopted, unions night after night are adopting the resolutions reiterating the determination of labor that justice must be accorded to the workers.

Again we strongly urge that every union and every central body emphasize their position and adopt resolutions and send these to their two United States

senators of their state and the congressmen of their respective districts and also that every union man every working man and every friend of labor and of justice write a personal letter or a postal card to both the United States senators of their state and their respective representative in Congress. Let the congressmen and senators understand how keenly we all feel the injustice done us and the neglect which the interests of the toilers of our country are receiving at the hands of Congress.

The toilers are tired of being guaranteed:

The "right" to be discharged for belonging to a union.

The "right" to work as many hours as employers please under any conditions which they may impose.

Labor demands the rights which are justly ours the enactment of laws that shall safeguard our true rights and our true interests. And labor demands these rights be accorded not at some future time, but at this session of the present Congress, NOW.

The enactment of the laws which labor demands are as follows:

Amendment to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. Wilson Bill, H. R. 20584.

Pearre Bill, H. R. 94, to Limit and Regulate the Issuance of Injunctions.

An adequate, just and clearly defined General Employers' Liability Law.

Extension of the present Eight-Hour law to all Government employes and to all employes engaged upon work done for the federal government, whether by contractors or sub-contractors.

Should Congress fail to respond favorably at this session and accord to the toilers the relief to which they are justly entitled, we call upon the workers and the friends of our common country to

STAND FAITHFULLY BY OUR FRIENDS AND ELECT THEM.

OPPOSE OUR ENEMIES AND DEFEAT THEM, WHETHER THEY BE—

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT,

FOR CONGRESS,

OR OTHER OFFICES, WHETHER EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE OR JUDICIAL.

We urge that each candidate be questioned and pleuged by the workers and their friends in their own respective states and districts as to his attitude upon all subjects of importance to the toilers, whether in factory, farm, field, shop, or mine.

Such a campaign, conducted by the American Federation of Labor, must necessarily involve heavy expenditures, and it can readily be understood that we cannot appeal for financial assistance to others than you. You are aware that the revenues of the American Federation of Labor are exceedingly small, being but one-half cent from each member per month; in other words, six cents per year for each member. With that small revenue, all the great work of the A. F. of L. is performed.

The toiling masses of our country are confronted by a grave situation, and we must be up and doing if we expect either congressional relief now or to hold parties and representatives responsible for their failure to perform their duty. It must not be forgotten, to defeat our enemies and to stand by our friends is not our only purpose, but to see to it that these purposes are unquestionably accomplished, that there shall be elected to Congress and to the other offices of importance, true and tried men, men of labor, holding clear paid-up union cards.

You, as organized bodies, are urged to act promptly upon the plan of campaign outlined, both in the protest to Congress and in the address to the workers.

This appeal for financial contributions

is to organized labor generally; to Central Bodies and Local Unions as well as to every individual member. Unions which may be in a position to make large contributions should make them, but this should be no barrier to any union making a contribution, if it be but \$5.00, aye, if it be but \$1.00. If unions have no funds, or cannot make appropriations from their funds for this, labor's most important campaign for right and justice, the unions should appoint committees to secure contributions and through their secretaries forward the same here.

Every one may rest assured that every dollar received will be applied to accomplish to the fullest degree to secure the rights of the workers to which they are entitled, and to make the full power of labor's position felt now and for all time to come.

Every union is urged to earnestly and promptly co-operate with the A. F. of L. in making this campaign for justice and right successful. Let all appropriations and contributions be as generous as possible, and forward them here promptly. Let us work earnestly and zealously, to not only defeat our enemies but also to elect a number of Congressmen in addition to the four labor Congressmen of today; men who are intelligent, honest, earnest, with clear unblemished union cards in their possession; men who in all circumstances may be relied upon to faithfully perform their duties in the interests of right and justice, true to the interest of our people.

Send all contributions to Frank Morrison, Secretary of the American Federation of Labor, 423-425 G. street, Washington, D. C.

(Signed) SAM'L GOMPERS, Pres.,

Attest: FRANK MORRISON, Secy.,

JAMES DUNCAN,
First Vice-President,

JOHN MITCHELL,
Second Vice-President,

JAMES O'CONNELL,
Third Vice-President,

MAX MORRIS,
Fourth Vice-President,

D. A. HAYES,
Fifth Vice-President,

DANIEL J. KEEFE,
Sixth Vice-President,

WM. D. HUBER,
Seventh Vice-President,

JOS. F. VALENTINE,
Eighth Vice-President,

JOHN B. LENNON,
Treasurer,

Executive Council American Federation of Labor.

"HANDY HINTS."

(A continuation of the article in May's issue by Robert Stein.)

HAVING previously shown a convenient method for finding the relation of wire sizes to each other, I will now throw another "hint" which should be known by every journeyman.

For instance, supposing it is desired to transmit 33 amperes and the size of wire required is found to be No. 8. The only size wire convenient to the wireman happens to be No. 14 and as four No. 14's have the same cross-sectional area as one No. 8 wire, the supposition is that four No. 14 wires must be run in place of the one No. 8. This is not necessary as three No. 14 wires (although of less cross sectional area than one No. 8), will transmit even more current than one No. 8. Now some one will ask, "Why is this?"

By referring to the "National Board of Fire Underwriters'" table of carrying capacity of wires, it is found that for rubber covered wires, No. 14 can carry 12 amperes, while No. 8 carries 33 amperes. Therefore, if one No. 14 can carry 12 amperes, 3 No. 14s can carry 3x12=36 amperes, which is more than a No. 8 capacity.

By studying the table for a moment it will be seen that as the size of wire increases in cross-sectional area, the carrying capacity in amperes also increases but not in the same comparative proportion.

I will endeavor to explain this fact by the following: Whenever a current of electricity flows through a conductor, no matter how small the current or how large the wire, there is always some loss of electricity and it is shown as heat. This heat may not be noticeable, but it is given off in any or all of three ways: radiation, convection and conduction. The more rapid that the wire is able to dissipate the heat formed, the more current will it be able to carry with a certain set rise in temperature.

An insulated wire can carry more current than a bare wire under the same conditions, because the extra thickness of insulation increases its radiating and convecting surface. In the case of an insulated wire the heat is conveyed from the wire to the insulation by conduction and from the insulation to the air by radiation and convection. A black wire will radiate heat faster than a bright wire. The thicker the insulation, the quicker the dissipation of heat and consequently the greater the carrying capacity in amperes of the wire.

Now, referring back to the question, it will be easily seen that 3 No. 14 wires have a considerable greater radiating

surface than one No. 8 wire and therefore this extra radiating surface will more than compensate for the difference in circular mills of cross-sectional area between the sizes.

It very frequently happens that in wiring a house the wireman finds that he could conveniently use a piece of No. 10 if he had it. But 2 No. 14 wires equal only one No. 11 in cross-sectional area. Nevertheless by again referring to the Underwriters' Table it is found that a No. 10 carries 24 amperes and as a No. 14 wire carries 12 amperes, two No. 14 wires will carry 24 amperes, thus again demonstrating that insulation will make up for copper under many ordinary wiring conditions.

The dissipation of heat in wires run in wooden moulding or in iron conduit is more rapid than wires suspended in still air. The question of "drop" is not taken into consideration in the above.

The carrying capacity of a wire, although of sufficient size and under favorable conditions, is very often greatly reduced by loose binding screws and imperfectly soldered joints and these last items are very often the cause of more loss in heat and drop in voltage than all other causes combined and should be very carefully eliminated.

Wires under binding screws and clamps, no matter how carefully made and installed, are always liable to loosen on account of vibration, unequal expansion of the metals in varying temperatures and other causes. A film of invisible oxide soon forms upon a copper wire and is especially detrimental when present under a clamp or binding screw. A slight amount of heat increases the oxidation which in turn increases the resistance of the contact thus causing greater heat and so on until an excessive amount of heat is produced by the great resistance of the contact and a burn-out is soon to follow. Therefore it is the confirmed opinion of many that all wires and clamps should be "tinned" before fastening because no oxidation occurs upon the tinning. This should be done on lugs and bus bars as well as on smaller clamps.

It must have come to the notice of every electrician that, when locating faults on bell systems, a most common cause is the imperfect contact of the wires with the binding screws and in push buttons this is the most frequent cause. What applies to small systems as in bells also applies to lighting system, etc.

When soldering wire joints, great care should be taken not to get too much soldering flux on the joint as an excess always

results in the decomposition and weakening of the wire right next to the joint. This flux, no matter what its composition, will in time eat into the wire aided by the heat produced by the current flowing through the wire and aggravated by the resistance and consequent increased heating of the affected part of the wire and the joint itself.

When one wire, having a joint in it, crosses over another wire, there is danger of the upper wire breaking at the joint, (due to the weakening by the acid and vibration), and a short circuit with a possible fire is liable to occur.

Imperfectly made joints are such a frequent occurrence and are liable to do such great damage to property, (which always comes unexpected), that the little extra care on the part of the electrician would compensate thousands of times in comparison to the loss which is almost certain to occur sooner or later.

Here are a few don'ts to be observed when soldering joints: Don't use too much soldering flux. Don't burn the insulation. Don't use a pound of solder to a joint and think it soldered. Don't "let her go at that" and don't char the woodwork as this will be a fair conductor of electricity and cause leakage in case the wire is displaced or loosened.

It is strongly recommended by the Underwriters to "solder all joints with a soldering iron," but heretofore it has proved so inconvenient and besides required so much longer time that this recommendation was not compulsory except in certain cities.

A new form of soldering-iron has recently been placed on the market which will not only take less time to

solder joints than with the blow torch, but will also solder them perfect and "soak" the joint thoroughly, with the additional feature of not burning the insulation or the woodwork. It is even claimed that no soldering flux is needed when soldering rubber covered wire by this special device as rubber covered wire is always tinned and no flame strikes the wire to burn off the tinning as when a torch is used. Another feature about this "self-heating soldering iron" is that it never has to be retinned as in the ordinary soldering iron, because no flame contacts with the tinned part, the flame circulating around in the hollow interior and keeping the iron constantly hot.

This soldering iron is shown in the accompanying figure and consists of a hollow-casting adaptable to be fastened to any gasoline blow torch by a set screw and it is readily seen that it is just as easy to solder joints with the soldering-iron attached as to hold the torch up alone and besides only one hand is needed as enough solder remains in the groove to solder about six joints in rapid succession without additional solder and will do this in less time than soldering one joint with the blow torch alone.

With this efficient device on the market it is expected that it will soon become compulsory to solder joints with a soldering-iron because there is too much at stake to risk the frequent neglectful manner in which joints are soldered in many localities and besides this special device ought to find its own quick adoption by all electricians by reason of its being a great time saver and affording a much "cleaner" method of soldering joints.

STORAGE RESERVOIRS TO PREVENT FLOODS AND AID NAVIGATION.

A PLAN has been proposed to stop forever the costly spring floods at Pittsburg and other places along the rivers which drain the Appalachian Mountains. These annual devastations are so certain in their recurrence that they have come to be considered almost inevitable. All the efforts of the Government with dams, restraining walls, and other engineering works have proved inadequate to control the streams when they have been swollen with the melting winter snows. On the other hand, the Government projects have proved unavailing to maintain these same rivers at a depth great enough to permit unhampered navigation later on in the year, when the flood waters have spent themselves. This latter trouble possibly

causes a greater financial loss to the South than the floods, but as it is not concentrated into a brief spectacular outburst, less is heard of it through the newspapers. It was, indeed, the problem of navigation that give rise to the present scheme.

It is now proposed to go to the seat of the evil—to the headwaters of the rivers—and apply there two remedies: First, the maintenance of a forest cover which will keep the ground porous so that it will not shed all the water from its surface at once but will soak it up and release it gradually; second, to establish storage reservoirs at strategic points which will retain surplus flow when it is not useful but only does damage by being allowed to run free, and

will pay it out, little by little, later on, when it is sorely needed.

The United States has spent \$30,000,000 to improve navigation on the rivers which have their upland sources in the Southern Appalachians and work already undertaken will cost at least \$56,000,000 before it is finished. This does not include the Ohio proper, which is largely supplied with water from these sources, on which more than \$6,000,000 has been spent. Despite this outlay navigation is so precarious on many of these rivers especially in the upper stretches during several months every year, that steamboat lines have to suspend operations and many companies have abandoned the field because with the light-draft vessels they are forced to use they can not compete with railroads, although steamboat transportation is normally much cheaper than railroad rates. The Government has striven for a 4-foot depth or even, in some places, for a 3-foot stage and been unable to maintain it throughout the year.

Experts from the Geological Survey, with the storage reservoir scheme in mind, last year made a careful study of the rivers which flow from both sides of this watershed, located reservoir sites, computed the amount of water they

would hold, the heights of the necessary dams, and the periods during which the rivers could be maintained at various depths above their low-water levels during the dry seasons. The results of this study are published under the title "The Relation of the Southern Appalachian Mountains to Inland Water Navigation," as Circular 143 of the Forest Service, and can be obtained free by writing to the Forester at Washington. The initial cost of these reservoirs would be greater than the works under the present system, but the authors of the circular say that the storage reservoirs would give the relief, both in regard to navigation and to floods, which the present projects fail to supply and they point out that the relief so gained would be permanent, whereas under the system now in operation there is a continuous expense in dredging the channels which become clogged with sand and silt washed down by the spring floods, especially from the unforested areas around some of the rivers.

In the long run the storage reservoir method would be cheaper as well as more effective, for, as one of the sponsors of the plan says, it is better business to add to the tops of the rivers and get what you want than to keep digging out the bottoms in an attempt to get a river deep enough to float a boat in.

TO MEMBERS OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

GREETING:—Hundreds of our brothers (the number is now estimated at between 800 and 1,000) have been rendered homeless and in a large proportion of the cases absolutely penniless, by the great Chelsea fire.

The blow was so crushing and the need is so general as to baffle any description. The Boston Central Labor Union has appointed a committee to solicit a fund for these burned out brothers not merely from a desire to do an act of common humanity but to save these homeless refugees from being driven like a demoralized mob to accept employment at any rate which may be offered by the capitalists and thus prevent their becoming a menace to union conditions as the rebuilding of the city begins.

The committee feels that this cause is one to which every union in Mass. can afford to contribute something, and the smallest contribution will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged. Members of the committee will so far as possible appear before various labor bodies and appeal for donations to this cause which cannot do otherwise than arouse your sympathy and practical help but it is urged that organizations should not

wait for the committee but should at once send to George F. Tagen, 156 K St., South Boston, such contribution as it can afford; and a little more.

The work is a great and pressing one and it is one in which every union man and woman can well appoint themselves a committee of one to see that their unions act and act quickly.

Faternally,

PATRICK MAHONEY, Chrm.,
GEORGE F. HAGEN, Treas.,
156 K Street, South Boston,
JOHN WEAVER SHERMAN, Secy.,
28 Pemberton Square, Boston,
COLIN W. CAMERON,
MICHAEL A. MURPHY.

APPEAL TO LABOR

From the Exclusive Committee of California.

BROTHERS:—The time has come when the laboring men of the United States must stand together, for the protection of themselves and families, against the Chinese and Japanese labor imported into the United States by organized capital, for the purpose of controlling the labor market.

It is estimated that there are now 300,000 (three hundred thousand, Japanese

alone—not mentioning the great number of Chinese—who are settled in most of the large cities of the West, edging themselves into every nook and corner where labor is employed, pushing out our countrymen one by one.

It is estimated that they draw, on the average, of twelve dollars per week, making a total of \$3,600,00, and that two-thirds of that amount finds its way to the Orient. A very few ever become American citizens, preferring to remain subjects of their own government.

There is now a resolution in congress for the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Bill, that will slumber there until after Presidential election; and should capital carry the election it will be repealed.

Though a non-sympathizer of labor be elected to Congress, he would not dare, from his political standpoint, to voice his opinion against the Exclusion Bill.

Brothers, shall we stand back and see capital fill our country with cheap labor, and cause our wives and children to suffer? No! Then, brothers, we must

act at once; not as individuals, but in a body. This does not mean that you support any particular party, but to form a solid, united body for the benefit of the laboring man in the United States against cheap imported labor; and there is nothing that will show our strength more than for every man to wear an Exclusion Badge.

Brothers, we ask that this be read before every lodge you visit, and the importance of it discussed before those bodies.

The price of the badges are ten cents a piece. Send money by postoffice order to the Secretary of the Committee. Send promptly, so we can supply you early and avoid the rush. The Committee is now prepared to supply you with badges, and in this way we can at once show our great strength in opposition to imported cheap labor.

SCOTT F. EDWARDS, President,
Los Angeles, Cal.,

E. E. KENNY, Secretary,
1516 Winfield street, Los Angeles, Cal.

THESE ARE ALL RIGHT.

A FEW union publications are here given. The courts are aiding cowardly employes who don't wish publication of their unfair attitude by declaring it illegal to publish an unfair list. Yet the judges are such superior individuals that contempt for them is held to be criminal. Law is largely a mass of technicalities. Justice is often lost in the maze. Wrong can never be made right by putting on the cloak of respectability, nor by enlisting the power of authority. Either the people shall deteriorate or a change must come over the administrators of law. Those who favor long days and low wages will buy non-union magazines and periodicals. The following are union:

Ainslee's Magazine,
All Story Magazine,
American Magazine,
American Boy,
American Family Journal,
American Gentleman,
American Homes and Gardens,
American Home Monthly.
American Household,
American Queen,
Appleton's Magazine,
Arena, The,
Argosy Magazine,
Argonaut,
Argus, The,
Arkansas Traveler,
Babyhood,
Bellman, The,
Benviger's Magazine,

Black Rock Gazette,
Blue Mule,
Bohemian,
Bookman, The,
Broadway, Magazine,
Broadway Magazine Quarterly,
Brains,
Burr-McIntosh Monthly,
Cassell's Magazine,
Cassell's Little Folks,
Chat,
Chautauquan,
Cheerful Moments,
Chicago Ledger,
Christian Herald (Baptist),
Churchman,
Collier's Weekly,
Commoner,
Correct English,
Cosmopolitan,
Costume Royal, Le,
Country Gentleman,
Critic and Referee,
Crockett's Weeklies,
Current Literature,
Detective, The,
Dial,
Dominant,
Downing's Magazine,
Editor, The,
Everybody's Magazine,
Everywhere,
Family Story Paper,
For California,
Fore 'n Aft,
Forum, The,
Four Track News,

Freeman's Journal,
 Geographic Magazine,
 Golden Age (Atlanta),
 Golden Hours,
 Good Literature,
 Gray Goose, The,
 Gunther's Magazine,
 Harper's Bazaar,
 Harper's Magazine,
 Harper's Weekly,
 Home Folks,
 Home Magazine, The,
 Home Talk Weekly,
 Home Talk Monthly,
 Iconoclast,
 Ideal House, The,
 Illustrated Companion.
 Independent,
 Industrial Monthly,
 Irish World,
 Iron Trail,
 Judge,
 Judge Jolly Jokes,
 Judge's Quarterly,
 Ladies' World,
 Leslie's Weekly,
 Life,
 Life's Budget,
 Little Chronicle,
 McCall's Magazine,
 McClure's Magazine,
 Metropolitan Magazine,
 Michigan Christian Advocate.
 Model Magazine,
 Moody's Magazine,
 Munsey,
 National Magazine.
 Nautilus, The,
 New Age,
 New England Eagle,
 New San Francisco Magazine,
 News Letter,
 North Amer. Review.
 Observer,
 Ocean,
 Outing,
 Outlook,
 Owl, The,
 Overland Monthly,
 Pacific Monthly,

Paris Modes,
 Pearson's,
 People's Home Journal,
 People's Magazine,
 Physical Culture,
 Pickering's from Puck,
 Pictorial Review,
 Pilot,
 Police Gazette,
 Popular Magazine,
 Puck,
 Puck's Monthly Magazine,
 Puck's Quarterly,
 Reader, The,
 Reader Magazine,
 Review of Reviews,
 Rocky Mountains Magazine,
 Saturday Blade,
 Scrap Book,
 Scribner's Magazine,
 Short Stories,
 Short Story Quarterly,
 Sis Hopkins' Magazine,
 Sketch Book,
 Smith's Magazine,
 Spectator, The,
 Success,
 Sunset,
 Tales,
 Tales from Town Topics,
 Ten Story Book,
 Times Magazine,
 To-day,
 Tousey Libraries,
 Travel Magazine,
 Truth,
 Twentieth Century Magazine,
 Uncle Remus' Magazine,
 Vogue,
 Wasp,
 Watson's Weekly Jeffersonian,
 Waverly Magazine,
 Wayside Tales,
 What to Eat,
 Wilshire's Magazine,
 Woman,
 Woman's Own Magazine,
 Woman's Work,
 Woman's world,
 World Monthly,
 World To-day.

THE LOCAL SECRETARY.

(BY LOUIS A. SCHWARTZ.)

THE assertion has often been made, and truthfully so, that the excellence or worth of an organization is judged by the character and capability of its secretary.

It appears obvious, then, that a man selected for such a position should be possessed of all the qualifications and attributes of a competent and efficient officer; and should, moreover, through sheer force of his abilities, command respect not only for himself, but also for the organization he represents.

It is therefore apparent that the office of secretary is a most important one and the membership of any organization should exercise a careful sense of discrimination when they are called upon to select a man to occupy that office and discharge the duties pertaining thereto.

A secretary should be endowed with a reasonable regard for and knowledge of the English language; he should possess the ability to write terse, well-composed letters in the best possible form of expression at his command; and, above all

things, he should be prompt in replying to all communications that are deserving of response.

Nothing is more painfully tiresome to a business man, or any one else, for that matter, than to read a letter that is carelessly written.

Neatness in form, as well as in composition, is as essential to the general appearance of a letter as it is that the communication should be brief and to the point. Remember, that the person written to very often has no other means of determining the character or intelligence to the writer, other than through the medium of correspondence. If the letter does not reflect the characteristics heretofore mentioned, the writer will appear in a very ordinary light, and it is only natural to presume that the organization he represents will most likely be looked upon in the same respect.

Much can be learned concerning good letter writing, by a careful observance of the technique, or style, employed by those who write letters which appear to the eye and the intelligence. A well written letter can be recognized at a glance, and when we receive one, we should profit by its example.

If one wishes to succeed in any line of work, he must become deeply interested in it; that statement is justified by precept. A secretary is no exception to this rule, and, if he hopes to perform the duties connected with his office in a manner at once creditable to himself and to his organization as well, he must become enthused in his work. To one who takes such an interest, work will become a real pleasure and his fitness for office will be recognized in proportion to the interest he takes in his work.

A local secretary, when assuming office, should do so with the full knowledge and understanding that a strict regard and attention to business is absolutely necessary; otherwise, he would be doing his local union a far greater service if he would decline to accept the office. It makes very little difference whether the local union is small in the number of its membership, or vice versa; the fact remains that there is always a certain amount of work to perform, and if that work is worth doing at all, it is certainly worth doing well and in a proper manner.

In dealing with the general run of correspondence, it is not necessary, nor is it good policy, to pigeon-hole a letter received and then wait until the next meeting of the union, in order to read it to the members, before writing a reply. Most letters require an immediate reply, and a courteous regard for your correspondent's sensibilities demands that you should not compel him to wait for possibly two or three weeks before you can

place his letter before the meeting of your union. Your union will, in nine cases out of ten, instruct you to do just what you should have done of your own volition when you received such letters.

A secretary who enjoys the confidence of the members of his organization can usually be relied upon to exercise his own judgment in matters of this kind, and it is essential that he do so to the best advantage. The reading, in open meeting, of a great deal of a secretary's correspondence would, most likely, be uninteresting and prove tiresome to the majority of the members and would unnecessarily prolong the proceedings of a meeting.

Unless communications are of such a nature as require due deliberation and careful consideration by the organization proper, they had best be disposed of by the secretary in a manner adapted to his own personal judgment, which should be, of course, based upon the policies of the organization, with which he is naturally familiar.

The workings of a local union are becoming more of a business proposition every year, and some sort of systematic arrangement, in taking care of the resultant accumulation of work which confronts a local secretary, seems to be not only advisable, but is an absolute necessity. Much valuable time is often consumed because a secretary has not reduced his work to a system. The looking up of an old letter or the finding of the address of an individual or firm will sometimes take up a great deal of time, when it should be a comparatively easy matter to be able to seize upon the needed information at a moment's notice if a proper system were employed.

There are systems upon systems galore to choose from; all the way from the old-fashioned (but useful) letter files, to the modern, up-to-date filing cabinets. It remains but a matter of choice for a secretary to adopt whatever system is most adaptable to his needs; but, by all means, adopt some sort of system if you want to simplify the work connected with your office.

A mistaken idea seems to prevail, in the minds of a great many members, that the secretary who employs a system is making the workings of his office so intricate that it would be a hard matter to get another man to accept the secretaryship should a change be deemed necessary. Quite to the contrary, it would be the simplest matter in the world for a man to hand over a well-regulated, systematized office, which could be explained in every one of its details; and it would be easier of explanation, as to its workings, than that of an office where correspondence, receipts and the thousand and one other

matters of importance were all jumbled together in a confused heap that would require hours of labor to sort and straighten out.

The secretary should make a carbon copy of every letter he writes. In replying to a letter, the carbon copy of the reply should be filed, together with the original letter; a record is thereby had which can be referred to at a moment's notice.

If the secretary's office is not modernly equipped with a typewriting machine, a stylographic fountain pen is an excellent medium with which to write a letter and secure a carbon copy at the same time.

A card index is an invaluable adjunct to a secretary's office. Small card trays, fully supplied with a sufficient stock of cards and properly indexed, can be purchased for a nominal sum. The names and addresses of all correspondents and members of your organization should be written on these cards and placed in their proper indexed positions. The secretary can have this small tray at his elbow at all times, and when it is necessary to look up the address of any one, it takes but a moment to secure the desired information.

When receiving letters from the International officers, local secretaries should use all possible dispatch in replying to the same; much valuable loss of time is often avoided by following this advice

and important matters are more easy of adjustment in consequence.

The fullest amount of courtesy must be extended to firms who may write to you asking for the services of men in the different branches of the trade. These letters should receive an immediate reply. If you cannot supply the men asked for, write to that effect at once so that the firm may look elsewhere for help.

When you are requested to make reports of various kinds to the International Union, do so promptly and with the feeling that the matter is of vital importance.

All requests of an official character emanating from the office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the I. P. E. U. are issued for purposes of the greatest good to the membership of the entire organization, and for that reason should be immediately acquiesced in by all local secretaries. Failure to do so materially complicates the work of the International secretary.

Great care should be exercised in accurately filling out all financial statements and monthly reports to the International Union. The standing of your local membership demands this, and you will avoid many complications by so doing.

Above all, be exact and methodical in all your work, and your local union and the International Union will profit much thereby.—The Plate Makers' Criterion.

District Organizer's Report.

Aurora, April 18, 1908.

April 1st I was in Pana, Ill. I settled up a case of trouble which I was concerned in with the light company. After a strike of one day the matter was settled satisfactorily to the boys.

The 4th I went to Terre Haute and attended a meeting of No. 279. This Local expects to have trouble with the contractors about May 1st. The case has been referred to G. V. P. Noonan.

The 5th I returned to Aurora and attended to some correspondence, and on the 7th went to Ft. Wayne, saw some of the boys, but as their meeting was on the 10th, I went to Elkhart to attend their meeting there on the 9th. Only three members of No. 157 were present. No meeting was held, so I returned to Ft. Wayne for a meeting on the 10th, six members being present out of a total of eight. They promised all support possible to build up No. 305. I remained there until the 15th, saw a number of men who are working at the business, called a special meeting for the 17th.

The 15th I went to Logansport, saw Bro. Clugston and explained to him conditions as I found them, returning to Ft. Wayne on the 16th; held open meeting on the 17th as arranged, fifteen being present, immediately after leaving for Aurora, where I arrived on the 18th to attend executive board meeting called for the 18th.

F. R. McDONALD,
Organizer.

NO LONGER UNION SHOP.

Kalamazoo, Mich., April 6, 1908.

The Lillies Cigar Co., which was formerly a Union Shop at Kalamazoo, Mich., and manufactured the La Azora Cigar, and used the Blue Label of the Cigar Makers International Union of America, is NO longer a Union Shop, and is now entitled to the USE of the Union Label of the Cigar Makers International Union of America. They have moved to Detroit, Mich., and are now conducting a non-union shop.

Fraternally yours,

UNION NO. 208,
Kalamazoo, Mich.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Crystal City, Mo.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Among the good things contained in the **WORKER** I noticed in the May edition the article, "Handy Hints," by Bro. Robt. Stein of No. 217. I congratulate you on what I have said would be a good thing to have in the **WORKER** every month and that is some problems on the theoretical side of electrical work. It would surely benefit any and all the brothers, and I think that any fair-minded brother will agree with me. I think if the brothers would do as Bro. Stein has done, by sending in technical information from time to time, we would all be benefited. I for one am willing to contribute. Brothers, to get the price you must have some theory along with practice, but not too much theory, as it may spoil your practice. The writer is no college graduate, far from it, but is a firm believer in a good mixture of practice and theory. Come, brothers, get busy, think of something. We are all anxious to be enlightened.

HARRY MATHESON,
Address "Anywhere."

Pittsburg No. 5.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Within the last month we have received several letters from different parts of the country endeavoring to know the nature of the trouble of No. 5, or if the difficulty was yet adjusted, so I wish to state to the Brotherhood at large that the fight of now twenty weeks' duration is still on, and is being waged as bitterly and with as much interest as it has from the start. It has passed through its several phases until it has now reached one of desperation for the contractors. They have been a badly disappointed bunch, inasmuch as they expected that half of the organization would break away and go back to work inside of 30 days, needless to say they were badly fooled on that score. Now they seem to be playing their last card. They have tried every means known to defeat us, but our defense lines are still intact. They have caused the arrest of a number of our men in their effort to scare us back to work, but again their efforts will go for naught. They are trying to fasten charges of malicious mischief "wire-

cutting," etc., on certain men in the organization for no other purpose than to put them in a bad light with the community in which they live. They give sensational stories to their allies, "scab newspapers," relating the terrible depredations committed by "Midnight Marauders." They have engaged the services of a poor, low degenerate, an ex-member, who travels under the name of John A. Meenan. The above named "gentleman" is to the Electrical Workers what Harry Orchard was to the miners. He has been promised immunity from punishment if he will help to convict some of the officers of the union. He is liable to leave here any day and try and work his way back into some of the Locals of which he often fleeced, so look out for him. He will poison the very air you breathe.

We see in the May **WORKER** the return of referendum vote on the Hemphill case. It is with a feeling of gratitude that we desire to thank the membership of the Brotherhood for the stand they have taken against injustice, and that local autonomy will prevail. We desire further to thank the Locals who have come to our assistance financially and we wish to assure them the funds received served a worthy cause.

In conclusion I wish to state that the rank and file are as determined now as they were five months ago the fight will not be over until it is won.

Fraternally,

F. P. K.

Pittsburg No. 5.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

During the last week I have been the recipient of many letters from various Local Unions asking if the trouble of No. 5 were yet at an end, etc. So through our "medium," **THE WORKER**, I will say the strike is still on with the "open shop" the issue, and while I would like to go into details on the question I find it would not be good policy at the present time at least. We have been out now seventeen weeks, and have only lost a few men. Two of them named Bert Fisher and Geo. "Red" Landis, scabbed three years ago and again they fell from grace when the opportunity presented itself. The first time they were fined and taken back, but when they went this time they "burned the bridge behind them."

They cannot come back. Another acquisition to the "Rodent family" is a gentleman named "Jack" Meenan, who is wanted in several towns for jumping board bills and the like. He has a police record locally which would drive an ordinary criminal to suicide, rather than exist under the stigma, but why should we look for character or principal in the man who will "scab?"

In conclusion I will say while there is no immediate sign of a settlement I believe the crisis will come before this letter appears in print.

Fraternally,

F. P. K.

Pueblo No. 12.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

To I. B. E. W. of No. 12: As I am visiting this Local, I will try and let you know how things are in Pueblo. When I left there it is as usual, nothing doing so far in line and inside work to speak of. The telephone company put on some men and the light company is in the same old way, cutting down expenses as usual. As I am on the road looking for a space, I hope that there is no other brother in the same fix. But not so, as there is Bro. Jack Barton and Earny Gwire here also, and others. With best wishes to the I. B. E. W., I will close for this time.

Yours truly,

F. P. MANLY,

191 Central Main, Pueblo, Colo.

San Francisco No. 13.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The baby union. It is quite a lusty youth, with an odd number and a membership of over eight hundred that will furnish light for the greater San Francisco.

The wound has been healed; a bridge has been built over the chasm. It has been wired, riveted and securely anchored to the I. B. E. W. and the B. T. C. The inside electrical workers of San Francisco are again all under one roof, thoroughly united and guided by the light of experience, speeding on the highway to success.

Local No. 13, the baby union of the Brotherhood, was formed on March 11. It is quite a vigorous, strong and promising youth, as it starts out with a membership of over eight hundred, and is already doing business in a manner that would do credit to a veteran organization.

The happy termination of the inside electrical workers' trouble in San Francisco is largely due to the untiring efforts, diplomatic skill and good tact of Grand President F. J. McNulty, and the wise policy pursued by the executive officers of the Building Trades Council of San Francisco.

The story of the amalgamation and organization of the new union, Local No. 13, is best told by the minutes of the first meeting, which read as follows:

Minutes of the Amalgamated Inside Electrical Workers of San Francisco. First meeting of Local No. 13, I. B. E. W.

Pursuant to call issued by F. J. McNulty, Grand President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and P. H. McCarthy, General President of the State Building Trades Council of California, members of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., and members of Local No. 1, Electrical Mechanics of California, met in Roesch Hall, 15th and Mission streets, Wednesday evening, March 11, 1908.

The meeting was called to order by President P. H. McCarthy, stating the object of the meeting, and further announcing that Walter O'Connell, President of the Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters' Union, Local No. 442, and a member of the General Executive Board of the United Association of Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters, had been selected as chairman of the meeting.

Grand President McNulty further explained the purport of the meeting, which was that all men employed at the trade of inside electrical workers were to come together and amalgamate into one organization, to be chartered by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, whereupon Walter O'Connell took the chair and in appropriate remarks thanked the gathering for the honor conferred upon him in selecting him as presiding officer over the meeting; and then announced that the chair was ready to receive any motion to carry out the business for which the meeting had been called.

It was further mutually agreed that Grand President F. J. McNulty of the I. B. E. W., and General Secretary-Treasurer O. A. Tveitmo, of the State B. T. C., should act as the secretaries of the meeting.

P. A. Clifford moved that the amalgamated and new union be designated as No. 13. The motion was seconded by a large number present, whereupon the General Secretary-Treasurer of the State Buildings Trades Council suggested that the motion was hardly in order, inasmuch as the first business the meeting was called upon to transact was that of amalgamation. The chair ruled the point of order well taken.

P. A. Clifford then withdrew his motion with the consent of the house, and moved that the two unions amalgamate. The motion was duly seconded and when put to the house carried by a nearly unanimous vote, there being but two or three noes.

Harry Hammang then moved that the new amalgamated union be designated as No. 6. The motion was seconded and debated at great length and a number of

motions were made as to how the vote should be taken, when it was finally agreed to by the house that the chair decide as to the manner of ballot. The chairman decided that the vote be taken by secret ballot, and it was further ordered, on motion, that it be on roll call from the lists submitted to the State Building Trades Council and further that members who had proper credentials be allowed to vote, providing they had been in either organization in good standing prior to the last thirty days.

Messrs. McNulty and Tveitmoe acted as judges and the two financial secretaries of the amalgamated organizations, Messrs. Urmy and Cooke, acted as tellers.

On the suggestion of Grand President McNulty it was decided that the members put on their ballot the number they desired to vote for, No. 6 or No. 13, in order that the ballot may be decisive and final. The vote being taken as ordered by the meeting, and counted by the judges and tellers, resulted as follows: No. 6, 147; No. 13, 246.

The vote being announced, the chairman declared that the new amalgamated association would be known as Local No. 13 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

It was then on motion duly made and carried, ordered by unanimous vote of the house, that the chair appoint a committee of ten, five from each of the two amalgamated organizations, to nominate officers, business agents, members of various boards and committees and delegates to the Building Trades Council, and to make recommendations of all details necessary in order to perfect the organization, and it was further ordered that the said committee retire, and report its recommendations to the meeting before it adjourned.

This motion being carried, the chairman appointed the following committee:

No. 6—Brothers Christie, Cohen, Cooke, Davison, Sullivan.

No. 1—Fisk, Rice, Clifford, Clute, Loomis.

The members of the committee retired, and after deliberation returned and submitted the following report:

Nominations for officers, business agents and members of various boards and committees.

For President, G. M. Fisk; Vice President, A. Elkin; Financial Secretary, P. A. Clifford; Recording Secretary, B. G. Christie; Press Secretary, E. C. Loomis; Treasurer, M. H. Dodge; Inspector, Theo. Wagner.

Trustees—18 months' term, Frank Beiderman; 12 months' term, F. W. Gallagher; 6 months' term, J. R. Smith.

Business Agents—A. A. Clute and H. H. Davison.

Examining Board—J. I. Rice, Chas. B.

Phillips, W. B. Sedgley, Harry J. Lusk, Eugene Minzenmayer, D. M. Ashmore.

Executive Board—The President, the Vice-President, Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary and Treasurer, and in addition thereto, J. I. Rice, J. R. Smith, Chas. Niedlick, E. C. Loomis, A. A. Clute and H. G. Hammang.

Delegates to the Building Trades Council—W. H. Urmy, Earl Johnson, E. C. Loomis, P. A. Clifford, J. E. Pursone, A. A. Clute, A. E. Yoell, W. H. Morgan and W. F. Hertz.

The executive officers were constituted a committee on constitution and law.

The committee further recommended that the position of Financial Secretary be a permanent office, wherein that official is required to give all of his working time to the organization; and it is further recommended that the officers elected be elected for a term of nine months, or the balance of the year 1908, and in addition thereto, the committee recommended that the union immediately make application for membership in the Building Trades Council of San Francisco.

The report of the committee on nominations and selections and recommendations of detail was received, and on motion unanimously carried, adopted by the meeting.

It was then moved and seconded that the meeting tender a vote of confidence and thanks to all those who participated and were in any manner instrumental in bringing about the amalgamation of the two factions, and thus cement them together into one grand organization. This motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Grand President McNulty then took the chair and announced that he would be present at the meeting of the union next Wednesday evening, March 18th, to present the charter to the new organization and also install the new officers, whereupon a rising vote of thanks and appreciation was tendered to Chairman Walter O'Connell, who in appropriate remarks acknowledged the good will so significantly bestowed upon him by the meeting.

Grand President McNulty then turned the gavel over to President-elect G. M. Fisk, and the other newly-elected officers took their respective places, whereupon the meeting adjourned at the hour of 3:30 a. m., Thursday, March 12, with three rising cheers for the success of the Amalgamated Union Local No. 13, I. B. E. W.

E. CHAS. LOOMIS,
Press Secretary.

Pittsburg No. 14.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

In the history of the I. B. E. W. we have had no protection in time of trouble from unworthy members taking advantage of us except the obligation taken at time of initiation, for which a great many

of them have no respect at all. During the lockout between the A. C. L. and Duquesne Light Cos. and L. U. No. 14, we paid out a great deal of money in strike benefits to the aforesaid unworthy members, and had no come-back whatever when they went scabbing. If we had been properly protected we could have recovered about \$600.00 of this money.

L. U. No. 14 has adopted the following judgment note, which I will ask the G. S. to have reproduced here:

\$..... Pittsburgh, Pa., May 22, 1908.

On demand after date I promise to pay to the order of L. U. No. 14, I. B. E. W., One Dollar, without defalcation, value received, with interest.

And further, I do hereby empower any Attorney of any Court of Record within the United States or elsewhere, to appear for me and after one or more declarations filed, confess judgment against me as of any term for the above sum, with costs of suit and Attorney's commission of 10 per cent for collection and release of all errors, and without stay of execution and inquisition and extension upon any levy on real estate is hereby waived, and condemnation agreed to and the exemption of personal property from levy and sale on any execution herein, is also hereby expressly waived, and no benefit of exemption be claimed under and by virtue of any exemption now in force or which may be hereafter passed.

Witness my hand and seal.

JOHN DOE. (SEAL)

This note has been passed upon by the best legal talent in Pittsburgh and is absolutely iron-clad and will take the shirt off your back, especially in Pennsylvania, and our attorney, Jas. B. Drew, Esq., tells me that the laws in regards to these notes are practically the same in every State in the Union. I would like to see this note adopted by the I. B. E. W. and a law passed and inserted in the Constitution making it compulsory on all Locals when they pay strike benefits to use it. You understand, brothers, this will in no way embarrass any brother who is true blue, because as soon as the trouble is settled the notes will be returned to the brother signing same, and only in case of a member doing the buck will an effort be made to recover.

Brothers, this proposition is worthy of your earnest consideration, and I certainly hope the rank and file of the I. B. E. W. will wake up and scratch gravel between this and our next I. C., which convenes in about a year from now, and see if we can't do something to place us on an equal footing with other International organizations. Will say this: L. U. No. 14 has elected a Constitution Committee whose duty it is to study the Constitution and bring before the Local any revisions or amendments which they may deem necessary, so when the I. C. convenes our

delegates will appear with a full line of instructions as to what No. 14 thinks is necessary for the good and welfare of the I. B. E. W. We have set one night a month, under unfinished business, for a discussion of the recommendations of this Constitution Committee, and expect to be able to do some good at the next I. C.

Yours fraternally,

J. A. GROVES.

Pittsburg No. 14.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Inclosed find resolutions adopted by L. U. No. 14, I. B. E. W., in the case of Jas. Lytle and Timothy Leahan, deceased:

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst our beloved friend and brother, Jas. Lytle; and

WHEREAS, By his untimely death we have lost a true and tried member and his family a loving son and brother, and his wife a devoted husband. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That while we bow to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we deeply deplore the death of our friend and brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy be sent to our official journal and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

A. G. JACKSON,

President;

W. C. ALLEN,

Secretary.

JAS. LYTLE,

TIMOTHY LEAHAN.

West Hoboken No. 15.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brothers, I think it about time that Local No. 15 had a word to say as it has been some time since we had a letter in the WORKER.

Well, boys, it has been quite a hard winter in Jersey City and vicinity for the various companies have laid off their men right and left, so that at the present time there are but few working and the prospect for the future does not look very bright. Now what is the cause? There is any amount of work that should be done, and there is as much money in the country as ever. Then why this great army of unemployed? There are various reasons given, but excuses will not feed the hungry nor clothe the naked. Now I am of the opinion that the situation has but one of two solutions, it is either a struggle between capital and labor or just plain politics. In either case the laboring men have a look in, taking into consideration the decisions of the United States Supreme Courts, makes it imperative that the labor men must stand together. The time has come when the only way that we can ever do anything

for ourselves is by united efforts, as the framers of our Constitution said, we must either hang together or hang separately, and as we have stuck by the grand old parties for so many years and all have made such exalted promises of what they would do if elected, have become chestnuts of a very rank kind. Now as the Republicans and the Democrats have been throwing us first to one side and then to the other, is it not time that we stop being thrown and throw the whole bunch out? Let us get together and decide on some good men taken from the rank and file, and put them in office. They cannot do worse than the ones we have and some of them may prove true blue, and I am of the opinion that once such a movement is started we will have favorable results. Let us be as faithful in working for ourselves as we are in working for our employers, and the only way to further such a movement is to attend the meetings and take an active part in the work, for there is much at stake, and the sooner the workers realize the conditions that the influence of wealth is creating and work by concerted actions to check them, then and only then will the workers have an opportunity of living like a white man in a white man's country.

A. J. W.

Detroit No. 18.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

In Detroit, the city where life is worth living, nearly all the brothers are working and seem quite happy and prosperous, but this does not mean that there is lots of work. Most of the jobs are short ones where one works a week or two then goes job hunting again. A great many of the members are doing "curbstone" contracting and it is certainly making some of the open shop contractors sit up and take notice, and also do a lot of "yelping" when they see considerable business that might have fallen to them go to card men, but if they prefer open shop, etc., to doing business with us let them "growl" and perhaps some day they can see where they can eliminate all such work and many other evils by working in harmony with us.

In the trouble we have had here during the past eight or nine months we have been very fortunate in keeping our boys away from unfair shops and only losing two or three members, but I regret to report that last week two more left the fold they had sworn as men to never betray. Any of the brothers or any one else who has worked in Detroit in the last few years please take notice of the names of these two traitors, and should you ever meet them give them the reception they deserve. They are Leonard Bogardus and Geo. Wales. They have no excuse for such dirty work, as they could both re-

ceived work enough from fair shops to make a respectable living. What sort of a character can a man have, or how far can a man be trusted who will raise his right hand among his fellow workmen and most solemnly swear and promise upon his honor as a man to uphold the cause of organized labor and then in a few days, when he sees he can make a few more paltry pennies for a short time he deliberately turns his back upon his friends and turns a traitor to be despised the remainder of his life by his fellow-men.

The contractors here are figuring several large jobs and claim to have lots of work in sight as soon as it opens up, but whether it will wait until after nominations for President or until after election is pretty hard to tell. People still seem afraid to loosen up on the purse strings.

I made the remark in the beginning of this letter about life being worth living in Detroit. It is very true, but if the workmen were receiving the wages they should it would be a whole lot better and almost an ideal place to live.

Fraternally yours,

M. T. GREEN,
Press Secretary.

New York No. 20.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Yes, brothers, it is a fact—first letter from Local 20 in six or seven months, so, not wanting to be dissimilar, I must relate the same as the other Locals, nothing doing, no, not a tap hardly for any one, and I really do believe that the headquarters for the army of the unemployed are right here in New York City. The past year has been very hard on our Local. In the first place we have so many of our brothers sick or hurt and been unfortunate in losing such fine big men as our late Brothers Jos. Fay, Bob Donovan, Geo. Davenport, Geo. Remick, and I myself was unfortunate in having my own brother killed. It really seems hard when you think back of these men, every one of them over six feet tall and as good as linemen as any man would want to work, and last but not least, little Archie Persides was killed by falling from an "L" structure in Brooklyn. So between our accidents and slack times we are not making much progress, but with a few loyal members we try to keep old Local 20 together.

None of the companies are doing any work to speak of. The N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. are doing some and some of the brothers have caught on and are considering themselves lucky in having a job; seems funny, eh, for a lineman to consider himself lucky in having a job, but it is a true fact. It seems as though the companies have no money to do anything with.

The light companies here are just moving along with as few men as possible. Telephone companies, oh! pass them up for a bad job. It is dead sure gut the Brooklyn company hasn't got any too much money to do any big work with. The treasurer needed it and took it with him for safe keeping. Street railroads, same thing, nothing doing at all, only they are right there with that \$2.50 per 10 hours. So I won't tell any brothers not to come this way. No, come ahead, you can take the places of the boys that are leaving, only don't forget to fill your knapsack, for meal tickets are a thing of the past here.

Well, I know I have said enough, but the reason I write, brothers, is if you notice it the minute a brother picks up his WORKER the first thing he looks for is a letter from his own Local and when he pays his little dollar month after month and gets nothing for it, why I thought I would try and entertain some of the brothers with an attempt of this kind, and I think, brothers, you will notice I always try and give what little news I know for the benefit of traveling brothers and I think other P. S.'s ought to do the same, yes, each and every one of them. Our WORKER would look like it used to four or five years ago, when it really was interesting for a brother to read.

Wishing success to all.

Sincerely yours, F. RAP.

Baltimore No. 27.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

For the benefit of all traveling brothers Baltimore City is not any good for work at present. Since the consolidation of the two light and power companies and the two telephone companies the bottom has dropped out of the situation in Baltimore.

Now is the time for all working men to think of this coming election. My wish is that every working man, union and non-union, may see the light that he may learn to use his mind as he does his hands and free himself from the yoke of tyranny. Use our minds in an intelligent manner on election day.

What have we to fear? Everything is in our own hands. Elect men to office that will not hesitate to give the working man an equal right with the bondholder. If the father of this great and glorious free country could know how things were going on in his country he would turn over in his grave.

G. W. PITTMAN,
P. S., L. U. No. 27.

Duluth No. 31.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The Locals in general no doubt are anxious to know how we are getting on in our fight with the Builders' Exchange,

Real Estate Exchange and Citizens' Alliance. Well, brothers, we are still holding our own, with all the grit that any body of fellow workmen could possibly have. Our conditions in the struggle are about the same as when we sent our last correspondence, although our hopes are far brighter for a settlement soon.

We know that the contractors are having a struggle and it has already put some out of business.

Our lockout headquarters are getting quite a lot of work, keeping several of the boys working and the rest are hustling for themselves. Now the long hard winter is over, it don't take quite so much to get along and the brothers are feeling more contented.

We take this opportunity of thanking the different Locals for their donations to the lockout committee. Everything helps, and the small amount that was received by the committee was certainly appreciated.

We are sorry to state that Bro. McCullum, who has been a hard worker and faithful member on the lockout committee, has resigned the chairmanship and will probably be leaving our midst soon. We recommend him to any Local he may enter as a builder and helper of unionism. Bro. W. Wonneke is now acting chairman, with the assistance of Bro. W. J. Hunt, who was recently appointed.

Bro. Fisher was in our midst last week and gave us one of his lengthy speeches at our regular meeting.

Keep on, Bro. Fisher, and some day you will be a John Mitchell for the cause.

Our delegates to the State Federation will be Bro. Frank Fisher, and we no doubt will find him a worthy delegate.

Well, I must close. Hoping the next line I correspond, I will be able to give to all the Locals the news of our winning fight against open shop in our midst.

Fraternally yours,

H. J. GIBBS,
Press Secretary.

Columbus No. 54.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, here comes 54 with the same old story—where's everybody tonight? Had a nice day and a fine night; not much sickness, and I guess no one is in danger of dying from overwork. Guess the boys have got so lazy from laying around they haven't enough ambition left to get as far as the hall. Don't see how they expect to hold a job when it comes their way if such is the case. What's the matter, boys? If you have something up your sleeve, come up and have it out. You will feel better and the others will be glad to see you.

Things are not as bad as they seem, and while you may not be able to do much for the union you can at least at-

tend meetings, and that is a great help to your Local, and you can't attend long till you will want to lend a hand and help things over the hard places.

The Locals of Columbus have a big job on hand now. Three central bodies that must become one, if unionism lives and prospers, and, brothers, it will take the efforts of every union man in Columbus to gain the desired end and maintain it after it is obtained. Now, brothers, it makes no difference how many bodies you may be affiliated with, if the members will not attend the meetings, the Local cannot appoint delegates to obtain the benefits of being affiliated with other bodies. Trusting that this will wake up a few more.

Bro. J. Morrison has departed from us after a long fight against consumption, contracted while in the south. He came back to Columbus the latter part of February. He died May 5. Funeral was held from the house May 7.

The following resolution was adopted by Local No. 54:

Resolved, That the charter of Local No. 54, I. B. E. W., be draped thirty days in due respect and sympathy to our departed brother and to his surviving family. While he was with us but a short time, our deep and sincere sympathy goes out to his bereaved family.

L. G. TAYLOR,
Press Secretary.

Des Moines No. 55.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The question whether it would be for the best interests of our I. B. to hold a special convention this summer is a question that my investigations has convinced me that there is an honest difference of opinion which side is in the majority. Perhaps a referendum vote only will determine.

I belong with the side that favor a special convention. My reasons are the following: In my judgment there are dead and dying limbs upon the strong tree of our I. B. That since our last convention there has been better ideas and plans sufficiently demonstrated that it would be not only practical, but highly profitable to draft into our Local Unions. If these conditions prevail, the question logically arises, is the convention the best plan yet devised for the taking of a general invoice of the old and the bringing to a common center the needs of new plans and policies for the future. I believe the convention, with all its turmoil and play of words, to be the best plan. Therefore, I favor the convention.

In the discussion of this question the question of cost has been raised, and perhaps justly so. I can conceive in the pruning of the old and drafting in of the new it may cost me my job on the Executive Board, still should the conven-

tion in its wisdom elect a more competent member, I can not figure where in it would cost the I. B. anything.

The question of cost in the labor movement is a relative term and should be so treated.

The Local Union in which, at the present time, I hold my membership card, I can recall very vividly that at a regular meeting about eleven years ago the question came up as to whether we should elect a delegate to our N. C. (we had a national organization at that time). At that time this L. U. was but a child in its swaddling clothes in the labor movement. But the great issue in that L. U. at that time was the question of cost, as it still seems to be in the minds of some members at this time.

There was not sufficient money in our local treasury to send a delegate. Those days our constitutions did not pay car fare or sleeping berths, still the majority did want to send a delegate, so we figured by an assessment of \$1.75 per member would enable us to send a delegate. Of course that amount would not warrant our delegate opening up any elaborate headquarters at the convention, still it would permit our delegate to gather many ideas and much information that could be used for the advancement and betterment of our members, and as the majority of us thought that was the purpose for which we were organized, we were willing to take the chance.

Since that time this L. U. has been confronted with many difficulties, and has had many obstacles to overcome. Sometimes assessments to assist other L. U.'s, sometimes to assist its own members. These assessments have ranged from 5c per week to one day pay per week. The history of this L. U. goes back an even eleven years May 1, 1908.

Today this L. U. is better organized and has more money in its local treasury than ever in its past history. Not that alone, but the majority of its members are to receive an increase in salary this spring. It is a pertinent question to inquire what did it cost. As a matter of truth it never cost the members of L. U. No. 55 one dollar, for it is a fact that for every dollar paid into L. U. No. 55 for initiation, dues, or assessments each member has received two hundred per cent interest on each dollar invested.

If I loan a man one dollar and he returns me two for its use, I can't figure where in it has cost me anything. Therefore, I maintain that the question of cost should be treated as a relative term, and not necessarily as a fact.

I don't believe there is a member in our Brotherhood sufficiently wise to know whether a special I. C. will cost our I. B. \$37,000 or 37c, when losses and gains have been balanced.

The question of \$100,000 in our G. T.

has been given some consideration in relation to a special I. C. I suppose we are receiving 4 per cent interest on whatever amount we really have there. However, its a minor affair and should be so treated. I refer to it merely to illustrate why men arrive at different conclusions. The major question in the consideration of this great question is, is our general membership receiving all the interest which it is possible for them to receive from the \$125,000, in round numbers, which they have paid into their Local Financial Secretaries since our last convention?

If it is possible by a casting out old ideas, plans and policies, redrafting in their stead new thoughts, plans and policies, we are able to increase the interest and benefit to the majority of our members, we should hold a special I. C. On the other hand if the majority feel that there is neither possibility or probability of attaining those results, perhaps it would be unwise to hold a special I. C.

Simply because an indiscreet member saw fit to indulge in a little childish pleasure, or revenge, by trying to treat the general officers to a mud shower bath, is neither reason or excuse, for the officers or member to permit their minds to digress from the great issue, which is ever confronting the labor movement, namely, the collection of ideas and the devising of practical plans that will improve the moral, intellectual, financial and social standing of the individual members.

Fraternally yours, JAS. FITZGERALD.

Erie No. 56.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It is some time since we have been heard from through the WORKER, and I believe it is about time to make ourselves heard.

We are not dead, although we may have been almost asleep, but we have been shaking ourselves vigorously at our last few meetings and I assure you, brothers, we are now thoroughly awake and ready to do things.

I wish to say a word to brothers who do not attend our meetings. We meet only twice a month, the second and fourth Fridays. The larger our attendance the more interesting these meetings become, and surely we should be interested enough in our Local to spend two evenings a month devising ways and means to improve our conditions.

There has been very little doing either inside or outside for some months, and there is no indication at the present time of a boom in the electrical line in this vicinity.

With best wishes for the I. B. E. W. at large, I am, Fraternally,

H. GARVIN,
Press Secretary.

San Antonio No. 60.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I will put a few words in the WORKER this month to say that we are all enjoying very good health, and most of us can find time to go fishing. We have some members out of work, both linemen and inside men. Work is not as dull as it was sixty days ago, but there is not enough to keep us busy.

Bro. Jolliffe, our faithful F. S., has left us and gone back to old Kokomo. We all miss him, and hope him a pleasant trip and hope to see his face here again.

We are to hold a mammoth smoker on the 30th of this month (May), and expect a big crowd. The boys are all working hard trying to get the slow ones in. We are using the goat very often now, and hope to keep him busy for a spell.

The city has passed an ordinance putting all wires under the sod, but work won't start for three or four months. We are all glad of course, except the light and telephone companies.

Bro. White, our worthy city electrician, has proven a great help in getting the ordinance passed, and never tires of helping the boys get in a few days' work here and there.

We have a hard fight to live here because so many shops are working boys and prices are cut so low that there is not very much money in wiring. The electric light boys appear to be busy. I don't know of any thing more, so I will cut this bum letter short.

Regards to all brothers. I remain,
Yours fraternally,

GEO. C. MORRIS,
Press Secretary.

Denver No. 68.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Will you kindly find room in the next issue of the WORKER for the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, Our Almighty Father, Supreme Ruler of the Universe, in His wisdom, which passeth all understanding, has seen fit to remove from our midst, the highly esteemed and beloved wife of Bro. Wm. Neahr, and

WHEREAS, In the midst of a loving family circle with all that makes life pleasant, her untimely death is to be deplored, and while our bereaved brother can never more in this life be greeted by her tender smile and loving hand, we humbly submit to Him who has called her spirit to the life beyond the grave; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 68, I. B. E. W., in session assembled, extend our condolence to Bro. Neahr in this, his time of sorrow and suffering, and trust the heavy burden which God in His infinite wisdom has placed upon him, will be

borne with Christian fortitude, and that he may comfort himself with the knowledge that the parting is but for a brief period, and the tender ties now broken will be again reunited beyond the grave; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for the period of one month as a token of our deep respect to our deceased friend, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local, a copy to be forwarded to our bereaved brother, and a copy to be forwarded to our International Headquarters, notice of same to be published in our official journal, the WORKER.

GEO. LEWIS,
GEO. WINTER,
CLAUDE WILLIAMSON,
Committee.
J. C. FISHER,
Recording Secretary.

Seattle No. 77.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

On May 11th L. U.'s Nos. 77, 217 and 202 held a joint meeting in the hall of No. 77 at the Labor Temple under the direction of the joint Executive Board of the three Locals. These joint meetings are to be held monthly with the officers of the different Locals presiding in turn and are for the purpose of drawing the members of the Brotherhood in this city closer together, creating a more friendly feeling among the members and to cuss and discuss such topics as are of interest and benefit to the membership in this city, together with such viands and liquids as the committee sees fit to furnish.

One of the main features of the meeting was the initiation of candidates. I would like to tell you just what happened to those candidates, but time and space will not permit. Suffice it to say, however, that when the team was through with them they knew that they were in the Brotherhood. Each of the Locals saved all of their candidates for this occasion. After the initiation was over the committee brought out some refreshments and while these were being enjoyed by the members some music was rendered. Good short speeches followed and every one went home satisfied that it was the most profitable and enjoyable meeting that they had attended in a long while.

G. V. P. Sullivan attended the meeting of No. 77 on the 18th and made a good report of the conditions of the district. He says that the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. are acting in good faith and want to live up to the agreement recently signed. Cases in point were cited in Los Angeles, Portland, Tacoma and San Francisco, where subordinates of the company were violating the agreement with the evident intent of seeking favor with the company. These men were at once set

right by the General Superintendent and no more complaints have been made.

Bro. Sullivan will stay with us for a few days and help us with our Snoqualmie and Independent agreements.

Please insert the following resolutions in the WORKER:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our late brother, Frea Fitch, and

WHEREAS, The fraternal relations held by our deceased brother with the members of this Local render it proper that we show our respect and regard for him and that we place on our records our appreciation of his services as a member and a brother and his merit as a man. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the sudden removal of such a brother from our midst leaves a vacancy and a shadow that will be deeply felt by all the members, and that this Local tender its sincerest sympathy to the relatives of our deceased brother in their sad affliction. And be it further

Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not the less mourn for our lost brother who has been called from Labor to Rest. And be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days in testimony of the respect and esteem in which our late brother was held by his fellow members; that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the Local, and that a copy be sent to his family in their bereavement, and that a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

W. B. REED,
J. C. DAVIS,
F. W. MILES,
Committee.
JNO. S. WILSON,
Press Secretary.

Denver No. 111.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

WHEREAS, Our brother, Dalton Heard, passed away in the prime of life on the 17th day of April; and

WHEREAS, Our brother was a man of good principles and moral character; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 111, extend to the sorrowing family our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days as a token of respect to the memory of our departed brother; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased

brother and to the Electrical Workers' journal and the same be spread upon the minutes of our union.

KNOX,
PRICE,
MCMULLEN.
Committee.

Schenectady No. 140.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I can say that things are slack here, for the brothers of Local No. 140, both on the outside and inside as well.

The only prospect we have is with the trolley, as they put on a few men May 1 each year, and we hope they will have a lot of work, as there is a number of the brothers idle here that will only be too glad to be at work once more.

Now is the time when we have all got to stand for our own rights and it is up to the members of Local 140 who see this and are back in their dues to send in a money order and get their books stamped up to date, as they will then have help in time of trouble, and not unless their card is good. There are a number of our brothers around that are getting away behind and we ask that when any Local sends any, please send a postoffice order.

Here is about all I have to say, as news is as scarce these days as work.

Wishing all brothers best of success, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

J. B. WELCH.

310 Lafayette St, Schenectady, N. Y.

Oklahoma City No. 155.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brothers, at the present time there is but little news from this neck of the woods.

There is no great amount of work here but I think all of the boys are on the pay roll. Would not advise any one right at the present to come here, but so far all travelers have been placed, for a short time anyhow, but I think things will be different a little later.

There is one place here that several linemen could put themselves to use to a good advantage. That is to attend meetings every Wednesday evening. There is room and need of them and a pleasant evening can be had if they will only come and take a hand in the game.

My attention has been called to a matter that needs some attention, and judging from the correspondence of different Locals it is general, though they do not say it out plain.

It might be called by different names. I shall call it lack of fraternal feeling, or hunting personal grievances.

Upon investigation I find that the members that do not attend the meetings give the excuse they do not approve of this

or that. Now brothers that do not attend or are slow in paying dues, just try for one-quarter (only three months) to attend all meetings, take an active part, forget your personal feelings, and remember that you are assembled for the general welfare of the union, and under the head of Good of the Union have something to say for its good, pay attention to what others say and not whisper or visit with your neighbor so as to bother or disturb him and make others lose interest in what is being said. Argue in a friendly manner, do not get personal or criticise and cause hard feelings. If you have read a letter in the WORKER with some good ideas, comment on them, show how and why they are good, and try to bring them to bear in the workings at home. Don't have a selfish or big I feeling. There are others in the hall as wise as yourself.

If you should be an officer try to be prompt in attendance and do your full duty, not a late comer and a shirker. If a floater or visitor comes in be sociable, ask them to speak, invite them back, make them feel at home, but if you should be either do not try to run things or make a nuisance of yourself; do not be too forward.

Brothers, if you will attend Local, take a part and work for its interest, you will enjoy it and make others appreciate your being there, then you can tell the other fellow that stayed down on the corner what a good time you had and insist on him going next time.

Think of it, it is easy to make a poor law, but very hard to work it over, when perhaps if you had been at the making it would have been a good one at first.

Election is coming soon, and should you be elected, feel it an honor and not something pushed on you.

Get away from that old affliction, the molly grubbs; be a worker and not a filler-in.

Well, brothers, I am not running a lecture course, but perhaps I will have another spasm in about a month.

Yours fraternally,

AL WALLER,
Press Secretary.

Ft. Worth No. 156.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

No special news from this locality. Glad to report that after years of fighting, the Independent Telephone Co. has secured a franchise in Dallas. This company will spend some two or three million dollars in Dallas and vicinity within the next two years.

Local 69 of Dallas succeeded in signing contract with above named company on March 10. Work in Fort Worth is quiet but we look for a good summer's work throughout north Texas. The recent

floods in Texas have helped the linemen to make a few extra plunks. Bro. Chas. Cole, who is with the Street Ry. at Denton, has been sick since January 15th but is up again. District Council No. 3 met in Ft. Worth April 14 with some thirty delegates present. Much business was transacted and much good will result. District officers' reports show gains all along the line.

The members generally seem to be trying to pull together, and altogether the boys in Ft. Worth, and all over north Texas are doing their best to deserve the respect and honor which the I. B. E. W. has fought so hard and so long to bring to them. I send greetings to all the "old heads" as well as all other members of the Grand Old Brotherhood.

Fraternally,

ROBERT G. WRIGHT,
"Old Crip," Pres.-Secy.

Owensboro No. 216.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I will again attempt to give conditions as they are here. Line work is very scarce at present. One or two small jobs are to be done this summer I understand, but neither will amount to much. Plenty of men to handle anything that is likely to come our way this season.

Bro. Roy Hoskinson was here a few days ago in the interest of the inside men trying to get some agreements with the contractors. No decision has been reached as yet, but expect something definite in a few days.

Any floater coming this way had better stop long enough before reaching here to pay his card up. These has-beens don't look good to us, so keep your card in the clear or go to the farm, where you won't be in the men's way.

Nothing more doing. I will close the circuit. I remain yours for the I. B. E. W.
E. L. MITCHELL, Owensboro, Ky.

Birmingham No. 227.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brother, as I have not been heard from for some time I will try to write a few lines. I would like to know why our old 227 has not got a letter in May WORKER. Now, brother, wake up and don't sleep over your right. Let some one write a letter every month for I always like to see one in there, then I know that the brothers are taking an interest in the brotherhood.

I am glad to hear that work is opening up over the country for the boys need it now if ever they did need it, for now is the excepted time.

Well, you backslider, I hope that you will attend to your meeting now instead

of shows and skating rinks, for you are always welcome. Brother, don't think just because you pay your dues that you are a union man. No, indeed you are not; if you are true blue go to your hall and show it, for you can't prove it by staying away. I would like to see all the brothers put your shoulder to the same wheel and see how it would roll along—be just like one. But that is too good for some of them that I know of. They are like a snake. They will lay in the bush and strike you to your back, but yet they call themselves good card men. Well, that's right, they are card men, but not much union men. Well, brothers, things are quiet in this little town. I am only stopping over here tonight. There is quite a big flood over in Dallas and Fort Worth, so I hear that ought to help the boys some.

Well, 227, I hope to see a letter in the June WORKER from you, and so I will ring off for this time. With best regards to all the brothers, I remain as ever, your

EX-TREASURER OF 227.

Colorado Springs No. 233.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I will write you in behalf of No. 233 of Colorado Springs. While I am in this town I attended the meeting and found a full house. All the members turn out to see one another, as they only meet every two weeks, and they have a good time at their meetings.

Will close with best wishes, hoping this will get there in time for print.

Yours truly,

F. P. MANLEY.

Kingston, N. Y., No. 277.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

This local has for five years read, with profit, the communications and other matter in the "Worker," and till now has never sought for space, feeling that we had nothing of general interest, to say. However, the things being said and done, of late, have stirred up us moss-backs with the following result: We consider the article heading, page 273 of the May "Worker," as giving the signal for those calling themselves MEN to rally to the support of the organization. I am happy to state that this local has not yet received any such circulars as are mentioned. No one has yet insulted us with such communication. The resting place for such letters in any decent body of men is the waste-paper basket. I am instructed by this local to express its views on this sort of campaigning. The constitution provides ample and easy means for any local to institute reforms and changes in the constitution or in the personal of the executive officers. So

these kickers are not forced to use tactics that would disgrace a Digger Indian.

To any local that has a real grievance this local offers hearty co-operation and support in any constitutional way. And that goes, too! See? We don't think that the constitution came down from Heaven, like the ten commandments. Nor do we think that our leaders are infallible. We know though that our G. Office Staff are earnest, hardworking, honest and capable men, who could make more, net money, per month by going back to their old jobs.

The organization has unquestionably outgrown the old constitution, but the executive officers are holding the job down fully as well as when the International was younger. We have a heavy gain in membership and new territory. The Audit Company reports the books balancing to a cent and "there you are" as Mr. Dooley says. I've "had my clouts" from the General Office, don't you think I haven't. But, I found out in the long run that I got used fairly well at that. No man who has been five years in the Brotherhood can fail to see the very marked improvement in every branch of Executive Department. The funds are honestly handled. Smaller locals get more attention.

I'm sorry though to say that we have as yet been unable to secure a ubiquitous man for president. We need one who can be in Toronto, Canada, and Dallas, Texas, at one and the same time. President McNulty does what he can, but he can't do that yet; otherwise he ain't so worse. I have noticed another thing, too. Whenever a man has been employed that has got crooked or hasn't sized up to his job he has drawn his "blue envelope" and faded away. As far as the "Worker" is concerned just dig up your file for 1903 and read a few numbers, then try some of the 1908 issues and I guess that will be the last of that kick. Some of you don't agree with the last few paragraphs? Well, that is all right. Get out in the open and make a good hard kick in a manly way. If you have a good kick coming to you you will pull it off all right. Most of the members of this Brotherhood are reasonably decent men, and may be trusted to do what they think is right. If you are not afraid to trust to the rank and file, get busy. If you feel "grouchy" get out in the sunlight and hit your man on the nose, don't hide behind a tree and sand-bag him in the back of the neck as he goes by. When I was a kid in little old New York I heard a song once which ran like this: "I can fight with a lion that roars in my face, but I don't like a cur at my heels."

I think the Executive Staff have quite enough to do fighting employers' combinations without bucking soreheads and four-flushers in our own ranks. What do

you think, you fellows of the rank and file? Can we depend on each others plain horse sense, or can we not? Do we know what we want or have we got to depend on the "Johnny Wise," with whom every local is "cursed," to tell us what to do? How about you? Speak up.

Yours for health,

H. H. BUCKLEE,

Card No. 68526.

I'm not afraid to sign my kicks, nor to holler for what I want, either.

Oakland No. 283.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few lines from local No. 283, for the purpose of informing the members of the I. B. E. W. that conditions are not improving on this coast. It seemed to be the object of all the companies here to see just how few men they can work. The Pac. Tel. & Tel. Co. are continually laying off men. And at the present time they have only a very small force at work. There are no indications of any work starting up. The Home Co. are not doing any work in San Francisco and but very little here in Oakland. The Light Co. in San Francisco are working a small force and the men work only four days a week.

So, Brothers, you can see by this that conditions here are bad, and so there are still a great many idle men here. Members would do well to keep away from this section. Now as there is nothing further of interest to write from this section, will close by wishing all members of the I. B. E. W. every success.

I remain yours fraternally,

HUGH MURRIN, *Press-Secy.*

Fargo No. 285.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I am sorry to say that I was unable to plug in for the May issue, so will try and let the workers know what is going on in our midst.

Last meeting we resolved to cut out Sunday afternoon meetings, with the result that we will now in the future meet in Union Hall, the first and third Wednesdays of each and every month.

Work here is opening up very slowly and we still have a number on the unemployed list, but trust ere long to have them all at it again.

There are a few things I would like to write, and if our worthy Editor will grant the space I will fuse up. A good pull, a long pull, and a pull altogether will work wonders. Why not let each member of the organization try this? Remember that each man you have on the outside is a menace to your success. Get every man eligible into line, and then make them members; then you have an

organization which will control almost any situation. Don't leave any outside the fort.

Which side are you on? The good union man or the poor union man?

The good union man is the one who always has the interests of the union in his heart; one who is willing at all times to do his part toward the upbuilding of the organization, both in and out of the meeting.

He is the man who, when he finds a place that is non-union, tries to place it with the union hosts. He is the man who when he sees a vacancy, his first thought is to fill it with a union man. He is the man who, when he goes into a store, insists on goods bearing the label, and will take no other. He is the man who believes in union first, personal feelings afterward. Are you like the above or are you one of the poor union men?

The poor union man is the one who simply pays his dues and grabs everything that he can get.

He is the one who, when he wants to buy anything will go across the street and buy in a non-union store, goods which do not bear the label simply because he may be able to buy a few cents cheaper.

He is the man who, when he hears of a vacancy, looks around and finds some personal friend not a member of the union, and gives him first chance.

He is the man who never troubles himself whether a place is union or not.

He is the man who seldom, if ever, attends the meetings, but is always the loudest talker on the outside.

He is the man who is never willing to lift his hand to help along the organization outside of paying his dues.

Which are you?

I think we have a few of the poor ones in 285, and I would like to see them come to the front and be good ones. Its just as easy, boys, and pays a good deal better and more manly, and its manly men we want in the unions today, because its men we have to fight and if our Brotherhood is not manly in every principle that makes a man, where does organized labor get off at.

Well, I guess my generator has run enough of the juice out, so will pull till next month.

Yours,

CHAS. E. PARRY,
Press and Recd. Secy.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Divine Ruler to call unto Him, Mrs. Chas. G. Arvig, beloved wife of our fellow worker, Chas. G. Arvig; and,

WHEREAS, Said Brother is sorely afflicted; therefore be it

Resolved, That our heartfelt sympathy be extended to said Brother in the hour of his affliction; that these resolutions

be spread on the minutes, and a copy thereof sent to the Electrical Worker for publication.

CHAS. E. PARRY, *Rec. Secy.*,
BRO. T. W. MALEY,
BRO. OSCAR BERGERSON,
BRO. F. R. HOFFMAN.

Cumberland, Md., No. 307.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

All of us have heard that plaintive question, of the lukewarm, backward Brother, "What good have I derived from the Brotherhood?" and it is not always an easy matter to point to direct benefit that the complaining Brother may have received; and it is impossible to enumerate the immense indirect benefit the possession of a paid up card, and the right to wear the emblem confers on him; but a counter question of "How much good have you done for the Brotherhood?" will usually silence the complainings, for he knows in his heart, as we all do, that the cost to him, and all of us, of membership in the I. E. E. W. is entirely too cheap, and that membership, considering its value, too easily attained.

The trivial sum paid for initiation and dues in the average Local Union pays a greater, direct and indirect return than it is possible to derive from any other investment known; all members who will give it a little thought will admit that as a fact that is incontrovertible. It is also a fact that all members despise a "cheap skate;" yet when we stop to think of all that we expect the Brotherhood to do for us; and the small amount we pay to the Brotherhood; are we not compelled to despise ourselves, for being "cheap skates?" This very cheapness is the principal fault of our Brotherhood, as no man places a high value on anything cheaply and easily obtained; and the only way to compel the members to place a proper value on their membership, is to make it so hard and costly to get and keep, that they will think it over very seriously before they will allow their membership to lapse from non-payment of dues, non-attendance of meetings, or other violations of the true principle of Brotherhood, at the same time it will make for a greater self-respect of the membership as they will have the benefit of knowing that they are not looking for "something for nothing," and that with a paid-up card in their pocket they are entitled to look to the Brotherhood for aid and assistance in time of distress of any kind, with the full knowledge that they have a right to look for it, as they have paid for it, and paid well.

The above is not written in any spirit of fault-finding; but with the intention of calling to the minds of the membership the fact that "the best way to help a Brother is to help him to help himself." To this end, it is respectfully suggested

that all members give earnest thought and consideration, to the establishment by the Brotherhood at the next International Convention, of "term" life insurance, health insurance, or sick benefit, and out of work benefit, all to be paid from Grand Office, through Local Unions; from funds paid by the members in the usual manner.

This can be done without much difficulty and without entailing any hardship on any member.

The writer has partially worked out a method, which with the assistance, by objections, as well as advice of other members interested, can be made thoroughly practicable, and entirely acceptable to the Brotherhood; and which will enable every member with a paid up card "to look every man square in the eye, and tell him to go to —."

The principal features of this method are:

First: A flat assessment of all present members for an insurance fund.

Second: The raising of Local Union initiation fees to an amount equivalent to this flat assessment.

Third: The raising of monthly dues in Local Unions to an amount sufficient to cover all costs of "term," life, health, and out of work benefits.

Fourth: The payment of all benefits by Grand Officer, on proper certification by Local Unions.

Fifth: The changing of the form of Due Card so that its presentation to any physician or hospital will insure bearer immediate attention as it will guarantee payment for same.

(For the benefit of those Brothers who have never given thought to insurance matters, it is explained, that "term" insurance means that on payment of a certain sum you are insured for a certain amount, for a certain period of time; in other words, under the proposed method, when you have paid two months dues in advance, you have put in bank, for families benefit, so much in case of death, so much in case of accident or illness, and so much in case you lose your job, for the period of two months, at the end of that period, unless you renew by paying your dues again your "term" insurance expires and you have no claim, as you have received insurance for the time you paid for, and you can not consistently expect to be carried or insured during time for which you have paid nothing.)

Sixth: The payment of an old age pension or establishment of a home for aged brothers, or both; the brother to have the choice. It will be conceded that insurance on above lines will materially increase the value of membership in the Brotherhood, also that it will materially increase the amount members will have to pay in order to be eligible for the benefits; and it will most assuredly elimi-

nate many abuses of the spirit of true Brotherhood, of which all members can cite instances, by offering a method of self protection which will place it "up to" the member himself to take care of himself by proper attention to his duties as a member of the Brotherhood; and should he fail in this when it is made so easy for him, his fellow craftsmen need feel no obligation to pry themselves loose, from their well earned "wealth" for the use of a man who will not help himself.

The writer makes no claim to originality or infallibility in urging this on the attention of Brotherhood, his only wish is to help as best he can every electrical worker, to "stand on his own feet," and to show them their inconsistency in expecting so many and varied direct benefits from the amount invested; also to point the way to a method of making the member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers the envy of all self respecting working men.

Objections, criticism and advice anent this method will be welcomed by the writer; limited only by the space that Editor of Worker will allow; but before you write, think, "Don't knock, Boost!"

W. M. LANNAN,
Press Secy. L. U. No.
307, I. B. E. W.

Wausau, No. 341.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

We begin to hear the cry, "Come get in to the Band Wagon," and as this will apply to all Locals we will come along with a letter. It has come to the attention of all the "good workers" that the Letter Column is growing and it is one of the best things we have to show up the conditions of the Locals as well as work all over the country; and it should be the duty of every Local to see that a letter is sent each month, no doubt had this been followed up each month it would have been the way to have saved lots of good men the time and expense to themselves and to sister Locals in the Flowery West, when the rush was on as to how conditions were at that time.

The same trouble seems to exist all over the country pertaining to members not coming to meetings. As some of our Brothers write its a shame to see a member carry a paid up card that never comes to a meeting. Well, however, it begins to look as though these members will see things themselves that will cause them to come under the wings of the Old Bird and get down to be good union men.

President Fisher of our District was with us last month a few days, and judging from what he saw of some of our "Rats," or "Home Guards," it made him feel homesick for some better places.

Our sister Local No. 440 of Grand Rapids sent in their charter to the Grand Office and the members have transferred to our local. No doubt Brother Starks, down in the tall grass, will be surprised and yet glad to know the "boys" are alive yet.

The street railway is hanging up (you note the way I express the word) some wire for the new park and the Light Co. is doing some new work and also some much needed repairs. Brother Chas. Lenz (who transferred from No. 83) has charge of work and is showing some good "stunts." The labor movement has gone ahead some this spring as we see three new Locals at Central Labor meetings.

Our City Electrician (who, by the way fell by the wayside last year), has begun to get alive now and is making the Light Co. toe the mark, and doing other "stunts" that looks as though the Big Stick was after him.

Work has taken a spurt here right now, but it will have to take a drop again soon as there are several "Rats" shown up here, of course they get the wages they want, because the man with the goods sets the price, and these would-bes come along and butt in.

Will try to come in more prompt in future with the letter and while we are small will try to make enough noise to be heard with the big ones.

With best wishes to the I. B. E. W.

Yours fraternally,

W. H. SMALL,
Secretary.

Mobile, No. 345.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Enclosed you will find copy of resolutions adopted by Local No. 345 on the death of Bro. Chas. Mulheirn.

Resolutions of respect adopted by Local Union No. 345 on the death of Bro. Chas. Mulheirn, who was killed by a train at Corry, Pa., on April 26, 1908:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our esteemed friend and Brother; and,

WHEREAS, In view of the loss sustained by us in the decease of our friend and associate, and the still greater loss sustained by those near and dear to him; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we sincerely console with the relatives of the deceased, in the dispensation of Divine Providence, and that the heartfelt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the relatives of our friend and Brother; and, be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of sixty days in memory of our deceased Brother, and a copy of these resolutions be recorded in

our minute book; a copy sent our Official Journal for publication, and a copy be sent to the relatives of our late Brother.

CHAS. BEAZLEY,
LOUIS TURNER,
J. L. EASTBURN,
Committee.

Pasadena No. 418.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, well, I guess it's about time to scribble off a few lines to the Worker again. Several of the Brothers have been jumping on my ear for neglect of duty, so here goes.

Local No. 418 is making out pretty good considering the scarcity of line work in this section of the woods. There are still eight or ten men walking the streets.

I heard one of the brothers say something about Street and Walker. I guess that firm is doing a rushing business these hard times.

Local No. 418 had a very welcome visit the other night from Pres. McNulty. This is the first Grand Officer 418 ever had the opportunity of listening to and I am sure that it will do much good. Brother McNulty gave us a very interesting and intelligent talk on the policies and aims of the I. B. E. W. He also spoke of the growth of the order from the time of its organization till the present day. A person would naturally think that the membership would have fallen off in the last few months on account of the financial trouble; but, on the contrary, Bro. McNulty assures us that we are gaining in membership every month in the year. This speaks for itself, showing the progress we are making. It is very easy matter to gain members during good times when every one is working, but when a labor union gains membership in time of financial depression, such as we have just passed through, it is very encouraging.

Brother Schaefer would like to hear from Brother Brown, who worked here last winter for the city.

Fraternally,

L. H. PRESTON.

P. S.—Gee; me head hoits from the above strain. Hello No. 50, How is business.

Racine, No. 430.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

When you see this you traveling Brothers who have had your card in the little local at the Bell City on "old lake Michigan" you will probably say, "I didn't know that Local No. 430 was still in existence," but she is and the few faithful still take care of what little business there is to be done.

The most of the Brothers are working and have been all winter, but it has been and still is a gamble on who gets laid off next.

This locality suffers from the same cause as a great number of others, there are too many "Nons," some of them are "has beens," and some of them too ignorant to ever be, a few will be, but, say, isn't it surprising how ignorant some other "wise guys" can be when it comes to joining a union? The laboring man's proven benefactor, the child slave emancipator, the mothers and wives hope, yes and after Christianity the greatest power for the uplifting of humanity as a whole, not alone the workers, the faithful but with them the drone who is willing to share the fruits of labors' battles, but will have none of the fight. Now look here you quitters, when you read this if some of your friends hand you a Worker and tell you to "read it, it's good for you," just close your eyes for a minute and look at yourself and I'll bet you will have had enough of unionism's education to be able to see yourself as others see you, who work at your side from day to day and have asked you many times to join them in the work of improving YOUR condition.

And last, but not least, all Brothers that read this letter give a minute's thought if that is all that is needed, if not then more, to the memorizing of the men's names that are favorable to labor legislation, not men that say they are but men that have shown by their past acts that they are and at the coming election give them your support, because by the ballot we can gain that which we can not gain by any other means, Labor's Right to Live Right.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
S. O. BLANC,
Press Secretary.

Racine, Wis., May 16, 1908.

Winnipeg, No. 435.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few words to let the Brothers know we are still in existence, which fact I think some of the members here must have forgotten, judging by the way they attend the meetings lately. I am sorry to say work is very quiet here just now. The City and Electric Light Co. only employ enough men to keep things in working order, while we have members who were laid off by the Government Telephones last January still out of work, so I would not advise any of the Brothers to strike this burg for some time. We held a special (open) meeting here a few weeks since in order to try and persuade the nons in this town to get inside the local. Some splendid speakers attended and put the advantages of unionism before all who attended in very forcible

and plain terms. So far the only results have been promises. However the seed has been sown, and we hope these men will see the error of their ways soon and then jump in and help us in the cause of Labor and Humanity.

No doubt members of the I. B. E. W., who once belonged to Local No. 435, will be glad to hear that J. L. McBride (one of the best and most faithful workers in this local), has taken to himself a wife and will join with No. 435 in wishing them health, wealth and happiness through a long life.

Trusting this will escape the W. P. B., I will open the line.

Yours fraternally,

A. A. MILES,
Press Secretary.

Goldfield No. 450.

WHEREAS, The Ruler of the Universe has called from our midst our late Brother, Will J. Shaw; therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to the parents of the late Brother in this, their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of thirty days.

C. V. JOHNSON,
E. O. RINGER,
J. T. CLEME,

Committee.

Oklahoma City No. 456.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is time we think for all the boys to know the conditions here, I will send a few lines in the interest of I. B. E. W. We are all working here at present and perhaps a few more could find some work with us. The outlook is good for plenty ahead and our Local is in fine shape. We are adding a few lts. now and then and we expect to overload if possible. However we have raised the voltage on some of them and it seems to help 'em lots.

Now, Brothers, when you start to the sunny south you had better have the goods on you. Or when you land you will get a cold reception. We will do our best to find you some biscuits if you come right and a job if possible. All the wire fixers here are card men, except a few annunciator artists and they ain't worth counting. We have a city electrician here that will make you hit the trail if you don't know the bizness. Of course he is a card man. Sure dat is right. We have the best set of officers now we have ever had, and we hope to make this one of the strongest locals in the southwest.

Hoping this will be in time, I will close with all best wishes to the Brotherhood.

W. H. BROGENS,
Press Secretary.

San Diego, No. 465.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well this is time for a letter for our June Worker. I will try and give an account of ourselves.

Work is very slack in this neck o' the woods. The Shine Telephone Co. laid off one wagon, but put them back on the next day. The Light Company laid off their heavy wagon last night. Don't know how long it will last. They have only two men working, and they are setting meters. The Home Telephone Co. is at a stand still doing only what work has to be done.

The members of 465 are still looking for that organizer we have been trying to get down here for 2 months. But I guess the Pacific Council has forgotten San Diego is on the map. But they are right there with the big mit when it comes time to get the per capita tax.

I saw an account in the paper where the strike in the north was settled, but could get no particulars. We only hope it is true, and that the linemen and operators won everything. Success to you Brothers and Sisters in the north, for we know you are all true blue, and deserve credit. Every union man the world over should feel proud, for you are made of the right stuff, and shows you were not afraid to tell the company your soul was your own. Good luck to every one of you. Now a few lines about our own little burg. The linemen are all organized here with one or two exceptions, and they are rats from Los Angeles. It seems that every time the Shine Telephone Co. wants a lineman they send to Los Angeles for some rat, when there are linemen around here doing nothing. But we know we can't compel the company to hire our men here, for they have a right to employ whom they please, but Brothers this is an injustice to the union to let the manager run scabs in on us every time they need a lineman or lay off our card man to put some cheaper man in his place, which has been done.

Now a little about the inside men. They are on the bum in this man's town only a few carrying cards. The contractors who carried cards themselves are making them every day, and paying them from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per. Very few getting \$3.00 per, and the journeymen walking the streets, while kids are doing their work. Now, Brothers, don't you think we need the organizer down here for a week or two?

Well, Brothers, as this is only my second attempt at writing letters for the Worker, you will have to excuse mistakes.

So by-bye, W. W.
Local No. 465, San Diego, Cal.

San Bernardino, Cal.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, the way I was laughed at and encouraged for the short letter I wrote to the Worker last month has given me all kinds of courage to write more this time if I can, if nothing more than hot air.

Things are going along as slow as ever with enough members working to keep up the meetings. We have one or two old timers with us at each meeting to tell how they done it in Missouri or Texas and keeps the Brothers interested. Bro. Dick DuBois is still with us and holds down his office as foreman like a hero, ever ready and willing to have a fine imposed on a neglecting officer.

But the main discussion now is, what will the Electrical Workers wear in the parade? to be held in San during the festival of the Arrowhead May 19-23. Some want overalls and some want silk panties. But I think the conclusion is, black hat, shirt and striped overalls, and we hope the Brothers will all turn out in uniform and make the "Non-Union" workmen feel ashamed of themselves.

The festival or street fair is furnishing work for a few linemen in wiring the streets and buildings for illumination. It will last only 4 or 5 days, but every little bit helps, and may give some broke and hungry brother a chance to eat and square up his card.

Hoping work will open up soon, I remain

Fraternally yours,

O. P.,
Press Secy. 477.

Oil City No. 496.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been quite a while since you have heard of No. 496, but we are still alive and all working, but a very few, but things are pretty quiet. Well we have elected a new President, Vice-President, Financial Secretary: President, Brother Lund, Vice President, Brother Courson, Financial Secretary, Brother Hardenburg.

Things are changing now and probably you will hear from us oftener.

This will be all this time, and will try and write again soon.

Fraternally yours,

H. B. RAVEY,
Press Secretary.

Brooklyn, No. 522.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, Brothers, as you have not heard from Local No. 522 in some time and as our Recording Secretary has resigned his position, thinking the Locals would like

to hear from us. Well, Brothers, things are not very good down this way at present and there have been trouble with the Smith Street and Coney Island Trolley Co., and hoping next time I will have more and better news.

I remain,

R. PEATTY.

Recording Secretary.

Danville, No. 538.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Local No. 538 hasn't been heard from this year, it seems that it is time we were getting busy and letting the I. B. E. W. at large know that we are still among the living. When that is said, we are just about to the limit, for there isn't much doing at present although we are all in line, and managing to be doing something. Prospects do not look very good for a busy year, but we are hoping for the best.

We have changed our meetings to every first and third Mondays in the month, thinking perhaps we would have better attendance by so doing. We had been holding them each Monday, but this seemed too often for a number of the boys as they would seldom come out more than once or twice in the month. It seems to me if every man had more self confidence, that this poor attendance at our meetings would be overcome. Each and every man should be endowed with a strong, firm, self-faith and should make himself know that he is one of the main stays of the Local, and that they cannot possibly get along without him. This would undoubtedly bring him out and by each member responding, the Local would certainly be kept stirring. Now let us all see if we cannot attend more regularly and help to make a success of our Local.

Well, Brothers, as this is my first attempt at letter writing since being elected Press Secretary, I do not want to tire my readers, so will now ring off.

Fraternally yours,

E. R. BRADFORD,
Press Secretary.

Oakland, No. 595.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a line to the Worker to let the Brothers know how work is here in Oakland. Work here is slow, nothing doing, everything is at a standstill.

The fleet has been here and gone. That gave some of the boys work for a few days. G. P. McNulty is still in San Francisco. I guess he likes this part of the states.

I would not advise anyone to come this way for work.

I see, Mr. Editor, my last letter did not get a look-in.

I did not get a line in the April Worker for which I am sorry. In regard to work here, all I can say is that everything in that line is slow, nothing doing, and by the looks nothing will be doing for some little time to come. We are glad that the boys in San Francisco have settled their trouble, but it will be some little time before everything is running on good oil, but they will get there in time. No. 595 is doing well; we have a good strong local, and all the members take a hand in the running of the local. We have the best local in the I. B. E. W. and we want every one to know it. Grand President McNulty made us a call some time ago. We expect him again before he leaves for the east. No. Brothers, don't think I am trying to keep you away from here by my saying there is no work. But I do advise all Brothers to stay away; if you do come why you will be treated o. k. as a traveling Brother, if your card is o. k. We have more now than we can take care of. I will let you all know in the Worker when work starts up.

Yours fraternally,

R. P. GALE.

Minneapolis, No. 597.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

In looking over the April issue of the Worker I notice that in most of the letters from local unions is a plea for better attendance and also a statement of the scarcity of work.

Brothers this should not be so especially the former; members should attend their union meetings and help put them in shape so they could supply the work for the membership. By doing the former you can readily see that the latter will have to come and come a great deal quicker than it will by the membership of trades unions staying at home on meeting nights, and not working for the betterment of themselves and their Brother workers.

It seems strange to me that so many union men have to work under such unfavorable conditions and still are satisfied to stay at home and let the Citizens Alliance do so much to force that same union man's children into the shop and factory at an age when they should be in the public school, that you so faithfully support and derive so little benefits from when you are unable to send your children to school.

And it is all up to the non-union man and the card man that don't get in line and come to meetings and help get conditions that every man wants so much.

Brother Frank Fisher, P. D. C., No. 7, of the second district, spoke to No. 597 at our regular meeting on May 12 and he advocated agitation, and if all the Brothers that heard him took his talk

home and thought it over, they can readily see where he was right in his expression of the agitation.

And will start out with the same line of junk and when they do No. 597 will commence to pick up in attendance, also new membership.

Brothers when you get all the stay at homes that carry a card all the way from paid up to six months in arrears, I say when you get them and shoot some ginger into them you will have no trouble in getting new members and will always have enough to appoint a committee without appointing some officer that already has all he can handle.

I want to take issue with the Bro. from No. 37. Don't hire any nurses, but lets get together and have the G. O. supply each local with an automobile to go and carry the non-attending members to meeting. It wouldn't cost much more than a nurse and besides if you hired a nurse some of the regulars might take it into their heads to stay at home so they could get a nurse.

We all have a duty to perform and should perform it with a spirit that will stir up the interest of the non-union man for in him lies our only hope. Get him with us and we are one stronger than we were, and when the time comes that every local of this grand rotherhood of

ours takes in a new member every night then we will show our strength and the other fellow will come down from his high perch and say, you fellows are doing business now, we will talk to you. Things will come easier then and we won't have to dodge that chair that union men are threatened with in certain offices in this town if they ask for anything.

Well, as I am not much of a writer and don't know as the editor can read this or not, I will ring off with one more statement.

I wrote this just as I happened to think of it, while setting down to the writing desk at home, and hope it will reach every non-attending member of the I. B. E. W.

And to those that read it this means YOU, and if you don't believe it come to your respective meetings and show the membership at large that it is not so, and that you are not a dead one in the trades union movement, then these kind of articles won't need to be written and our editor can utilize the space in our valuable Journal with other matters that will benefit us also.

Hoping this will not be sent to the crematory and that the writer won't be shot, I am fraternally yours,

Doc.

Local Union No. 597.

Votes of E. B. on Proposition Submitted.

	King.	McLaughlin.	Godshall.	O'Connor.	Fitzgerald.	Graham.	Scott.	
Appeal, Edw. Raymond vs. G. P. Decision.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	G. P. Sustained
" Intermountain D. C. for \$10,000	No	\$500	No	\$600	\$500	Yes	\$500 Allowed
" 537 Frank Weise & J. J. Bain..	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
" 583 Six months remission Per Capita Tax*.....	No	3 mo.	6 mo.	6 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	4 mo.	* 4 Mos. allowed
" L. U. No. 5 for donation \$500.00 from General Fund.....	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
" L. U. 14, 3 mos. extension.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
" L. U. 527, Remission P. C. Tax, 3 Mos.	3 Mos.	3 mo.	3 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	6 mo.	3 mo.	* 3 Mos. allowed
" L. U. 300, H. J. Carlin, Death* Claim.....	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
" L. U. 31, Six months extension	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
" L. U. 163, Remission Feb., Mar., April, '08.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
" L. U. 112, Remission P. C. Tax	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
" L. U. 365, Six mos. remission P. C. Tax.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Proposition G. P. to remit \$714.85 Per Capita due from L. U. No. 6.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Request, G. P. McNulty for 6 weeks leave of absence.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Appeal, No. 98, remission P. C. Tax 3 months.....	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
L. U. No. 6, Remission } Remission 9/107 1/1 '08 or Extension..... } Extension 1/1 '08 7/1 '08	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6 Mos. Extension from Mar. 1, '08

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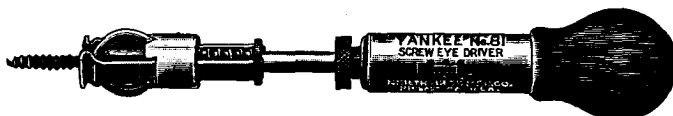
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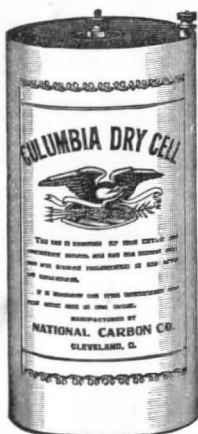
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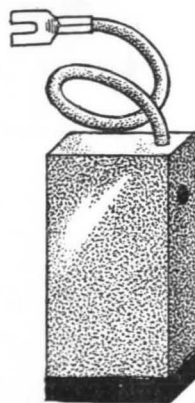
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